

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

DEEDS, NOT WORDS.

Now for a word or two, a closing word, respecting the action of our projected electoral clubs. Mere existence is something—but existence without activity cannot count for much. In this world, we estimate the worth of a thing by what it can do—the amount of change which, in some way or other, it can produce. Elemental power is like a powder-magazine—a store-house for the *materiel* of war—absolutely requisite where anything is to be done—locked-up capital of the most unproductive kind where nothing is doing. Growth of all kinds is the result of exercise—and, assuredly, be the force we intend to employ of whatever nature it may, it is only in the proportion in which it is employed, that it can be expected to succeed. Nature, in all the departments of her works, enforces this truth. The half-naked infant, rolling on the floor, jerking its chubby legs to and fro with as much vehemence as if compelled to swim for its life, stretching out its tiny arms in fruitless endeavours to reach a straw, laughing, crowing, screaming, an apparently mischievous surplus of noise, is then, in reality, as every mother knows, unconsciously wriggling itself towards manhood. It is thus, and thus only, that little things become great things. Electoral clubs must, indeed, be in order to do—but they must also do in order to enjoy.

Let us glance, then, for a moment, at the kind of work in which these associations may usefully employ their incipient strength. We shall assume that they will have at least two years' scope for the development of all their activities. The question we have to answer is, how that time may be turned to profitable account.

Persevering assiduity, we may observe, in the first place, may do not a little towards gathering up and digesting a complete system of electoral statistics. A copy of the parliamentary register for the borough should be obtained—the names of electors arranged in small and manageable districts—each district, in turn, taken under the superintendence of a member, for the purpose of searching and minute inquiry—the political opinions, connexions, habits, susceptibilities of every resident elector ascertained, and recorded—who are on the register that ought not to be there, and who are not that ought to be, and might be with advantage to the cause in hand. The amount of labour required for this will, in the aggregate, be considerable, and, looked at in the lump, may frighten many from embarking in so arduous an enterprise. But as it is not to be done all at once, but little by little, so the difficulty should be computed, not by all the steps put together, but by each single step in the process of investigation. Here, for example, is a man who, when a district is assigned to him, imagines that in order effectually to occupy his post, he must give up nearly half his time to canvass it from end to end. Now, it is of small use to tell such a man that he need do no such thing. It would, perhaps, be more to the purpose, to ask him whether he could manage to ascertain the exact political whereabouts of one elector every day. This, where only seven members of a club are employed, would give the re-

quisite information respecting forty-two electors every week—and, at this rate, most boroughs may be gone through in less than six months. And the knowledge thus acquired, as every man conversant with parliamentary elections must know, will be serviceable at every turn. Little, indeed, can be accomplished without it, and the fuller it is, and the more methodically systematised, the greater is the power which it gives to those who possess it.

There are other matters of information which it would be desirable for them to collect, and to note down—things necessary to be done with a view to the registration of electors—formulas which the law renders necessary—the average legal expenses of carrying a candidate to the poll—the precise nature of the qualification required in members—and all those items of accurate knowledge, the want of which is so apt to produce a hitch in our movements when we least expect it.

Attention to the register, is another mode in which these clubs may profitably exercise themselves. There are few boroughs in which, partly from misapprehension, partly from disgust, there are not several good men and true, who either have never qualified themselves to vote, or have suffered their franchise to drop from sheer neglect. Such men must be hunted up, reasoned with, interested, if possible, in the main object contemplated by the club, and persuaded to take steps for acquiring the powers and privileges of citizenship. Activity in this direction, will tell advantageously in more than one way. Even where the number of voters gained by it are few, the moral influence which, as one infallible proof of earnestness, it will generate, will, in the long run, be considerable.

Wherever prospects are such as to render preferable the putting forward of a candidate selected by the club, to influencing the selection of a candidate by others, correspondence should be opened with trustworthy friends, with a view to secure a thoroughly competent man. There are many such in comparative obscurity—embryo Hampdens, Pym's, Elliots, and Vanes—wanting only the occasion to call them out. But they are not to be met with at random, nor in a hurry. Unambitious of the distinction which, nevertheless, the exigencies of the times will, we anticipate, thrust upon them, and content to move in that more confined sphere of usefulness in which their lot, hitherto, has been cast, they are the last men who will be found drifting on the surface of the current. They must be sought out. They will want earnest solicitation. Time must be given them for deliberation and decision. In any instance, the consent of such men to stand will probably involve great sacrifices on their part—in some cases, much greater than any man could acquiesce in without ample reflection. If these electoral clubs do nothing more than discover a few such spirits, they will have rendered their country no trivial service.

These, then, are a few of the modes of action which the electoral associations now under notice may bring into play, subordinately to their main design—samples, merely, to indicate of what kind their deeds should be—some out of several channels in which activity may flow. Great results may not be anticipated from any one of them, nor all of them together, in themselves considered. But they will help forward the main object. The very handling of these weapons of political warfare will infuse fresh courage into the “forlorn hope,” will deepen their resolution, and will give timely practice to their untried energies. They will grow more and more in earnest, as they grow more and more active—until, at length, their will will have reached that intensity of temperament, that it will find a way for the adequate expression of itself, or burn one.

We have done. Yet, ere we quit the ground upon which we have laboured several successive weeks, we would fain solace ourselves, and encourage others, by the thought, that there are some objects of such unspeakable importance, so vast in their own nature, so extensive in their bearings, so distinctly stamped with the seal of heaven, that to contribute in any way, by any service, however mean, to their accomplishment, is in itself a glorious reward. And such an object is that in the pursuit of which we would call out the energies of our friends. Would that we could so present it to their minds, that we could so fix upon it their studious and reverent gaze, as that, penetrated by a sense of its surpassing greatness, as well as of its

inherent excellence, they should value more the honour of aiding it by their efforts, than even that of commanding success itself. He who spread his mantle upon the earth that a sovereign's foot might not be soiled, esteemed the use to which his garment had been converted, a sufficient recompence. How much more reason have we to find satisfaction, in the employment of our power in the lowliest services, if only that Sovereign to whom we owe our best allegiance, deign to step upon them towards his own beneficent design. Who are we, the most important among us may well ask, that we should be made use of in so glorious a work? Why, ages have been preparing this question for its final issue—minds have been guided, and events shaped, with a view to this, for many generations back. It is the one point to which past history has been steadily looking forward ever since the Reformation—and upon which future history will look back with gratitude, as long as time shall last. Mind groans to be delivered from the bondage which oppresses it, conscious of its own degradation, but unenlightened yet as to the agency by which that oppression is perpetuated. And, under the direction of an unerring Providence, every movement of spiritual despotism is a step blindly taken towards that moment, big with the highest interests of mankind, when usurped authority and simple truth shall close in a death-grapple, and the religion of the gospel shall again be free. Never, since Christianity first bade our race rejoice in hope, have her subjects been called to a higher contest with evil. In this majestic enterprise, services in their own nature little, lose all their littleness; and to be one in that combination which, by virtuous means, shall break the yoke of priesthood from off the neck of nations, is enough, rightly considered, to kindle ambition in any soul, and to prompt any generous heart to cheerful self-sacrifice.

One word more. We have reason to know that many individuals in several parliamentary boroughs would be glad to form themselves into electoral clubs, but are at a loss with regard to the first practical step to be taken. Unacquainted with each other, or with each other's intentions, they fancy themselves alone. A plan has been suggested to us, which we make bold to adopt. *If all persons willing to join such clubs will communicate to us their names and addresses, we will undertake to transmit to some one of them in each borough a list of the names given in from that borough, and he will be able at once to convene them for instant action.*

MODEL OF AN ELECTORAL CLUB FOR SECURING A PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION OF ANTI-STATE-CHURCH PRINCIPLES.

NAME.

That this club be called “The [insert the name of the borough] Anti-state-church Electoral Club.”

OBJECT.

That the exclusive object of this club be to secure for this borough an efficient parliamentary representation of the principle, “That in matters of religion, man is responsible to God alone, and that all state interference with, or support of, the religious faith and worship of its subjects, is dangerous to liberty, hostile to reason, and opposed to the dictates of the word of God.”

CONSTITUENCY.

That this club consist of such registered electors for the borough, and of such persons qualified and willing to be put upon the register, as will consider their enrolment as members to be an honourable pledge to withhold their votes in every case of a contested election, in which the foregoing principle is not avowed by the candidate [or candidates], and who consents to the rules adopted by this club.

ORGANISATION.

1. That the business of this club be managed by a Treasurer, a Secretary, and such of its members as may be present at any of its meetings being duly convened.
2. That the Treasurer and Secretary be chosen annually.
3. That meetings of the club be held once a month at least, at a stated time and place, to be fixed

Edward Mill

1. Belgrave Place

Leigh Park

Holloway

by the members, and as much oftener as the business before it may render necessary.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. That the Treasurer of this club keep a correct account of all monies paid into his hands for its use, and of all monies expended by order of any meeting of its members duly convened—and that he present a balance-sheet of income and expenditure once every six months.
2. That the Secretary convene all the meetings of the club—enter the minutes of its proceedings in a book to be provided for that purpose—conduct its correspondence—register the names of its members—arrange the business to be laid before each meeting—and discharge such other duties pertaining to his office, as may be requisite for the order and efficiency of the proceedings of the club.

PECUNIARY MEANS.

That each member, from the time of his enrolment, subscribe a weekly sum, the amount of which shall be determined by himself, towards defraying the expenses which the club may incur.

MODES OF ACTION.

That the following be among the modes of action to be adopted by this club:—

1. The steadfast refusal by its members to exercise the franchise at any contested election for the borough, unless to secure the representation in parliament of anti-state-church principles.
2. The putting forward, if possible, at contested elections, candidates well qualified to advocate the principles of religious voluntaryism in the House of Commons, and to commend it by their integrity of character, and by the consistency of their sentiments on kindred topics.
3. Correspondence with the tried and earnest friends of that principle, with a view to secure the introduction of such candidates to this borough.
4. Close investigation of the opinions, on this subject, of every candidate put forward in this borough by either of the political parties.
5. The collection of a complete body of electoral statistics for the borough, and of all kinds of legal and practical information on election proceedings—careful attention to the registration of voters—a thorough canvass of the borough for the purpose of adding members to this club—and all other legitimate means of obtaining and imparting useful information which this club may hereafter sanction.

[We have given this draft *in rough*, and we have done so advisedly. It cannot well be adopted in its present form, nor is it, in our judgment, desirable to furnish rules cut and dried for every locality. We have deemed it far preferable to indicate a general outline for the guidance of such associations—and to leave them in each particular instance to fill it up according to their own views. These suggestions may serve for their guidance—but they will necessarily require to be cast into a more definite form, and embodied in exacter phraseology.]

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ELECTORAL CLUBS.

Extracts from Correspondence.

MARYLEBONE.—I shall be both proud and happy to enrol my name in the small band upon whom will devolve the duty of leading the assault in the borough of Marylebone; and much I fear, we shall indeed prove an inconsiderable band, even in this extensive borough, but hence the propriety of the designation you have chosen. Besides, nothing of course can be more manifest, than that, if the army is to stay for ever ingloriously at the base of the fortress (as not a few have shown and are still showing a determination to do), indolently gazing at its lofty and apparently, in their estimation, impregnable battlements, impregnable and unscaled must they for ever remain; and my confident belief is, that for ages yet will so remain, unless, at this our only assailable point in our own country, we vigorously raise the siege. Though much engaged in business, I shall be happy, if you desire it, to obtain and propose to you other names in the borough. I perfectly agree with you that we must divest ourselves of all whig and worldly expediency, which have hitherto most seriously encumbered us, and take our stand on the one sound anti-establishment principle.

LAMBETH.—I am quite willing to stand by any three or four electors of Lambeth or of Middlesex, who may be prepared to form an electoral club, on the broad principle of the abolition of all ecclesiastical endowments, as recommended by you.

TOWER HAMLETS.—I have thought over your project of a "Forlorn Hope," and think it an excellent one. In the borough to which I belong, I think a tolerable phalanx might be raised at once, but we are all strangers to each other. Should your receiving box for this borough be supplied as I think it might be, you may count me in the number, and I

think I can speak for another who lives with me in the house. After you shall have collected the names and addresses, we might meet and talk on the subject. The only difficulty I have is, that I shall vote for no man who will not pledge himself to the complete suffrage, because, however decided I may be on the church question, I have still more faith in the working of the suffrage, as the one which includes all others.

FINSBURY.—I write to give you my name, as an elector of Finsbury who will not vote for any candidate who is not anti-state-church, nor for any anti-state-church candidate who is not a complete suffragist. I am truly glad to see that you are putting the matter into shape for our friends. For my own part, I would rather have a hundred different election tests than the present want of principle.

THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH.—Following up your proposal for the establishment of anti-state-church electoral clubs, in which I most heartily concur, will you allow me to make a suggestion having reference to immediate action, in that direction, in London and its suburbs? Within so large a circle, there are doubtless many prepared to join in this work, but who are unknown to each other, or, at least, have no means whereby each may be made acquainted with the preparedness of the rest. Of the members of the British Anti-state-church Association, the greater part are, in all probability, fully alive to the importance of your proposal, and have given it their respectful consideration; while many, I fully believe, are quite disposed to adopt it as their own, but they are isolated, and require to be brought together ere they can co-operate. May not this be accomplished if each person, thus desirous, shall communicate his name and address to yourself, specifying, at the same time, whether his vote is for the county, or for which of the cities or boroughs? The names having been thus obtained, some one friend in each parliamentary locality could summons the rest, by printed circular, to a preliminary meeting for consultation, and at which your promised rules and details for action might be discussed, and, if approved, be made the basis of future co-operation.

SALISBURY.—For my own part, my determination is formed. I have had much to do with election contests in this city for the last twenty years. There is scarcely a circumstance connected with them, whether open or secret, with which I have not been more or less concerned; and the course I have taken has generally appeared to have some little influence upon my brother Dissenters. I cannot tell how many, or if any, will be inclined to act with me in the resolution I have now formed, which is—to vote for no man, unless he will give me satisfactory evidence that he will co-operate in the removal of the grand evil of which we have to complain—that of a national religious establishment. I should of course scrutinise the integrity and moral worth of the party making such pretensions; but whoever fails in this—he be whig, free-trader, complete suffragist, or what not—I shall not put myself to the trouble of giving him a vote. The state of our city representation cannot suffer by such a determination.

BOSTON.—I have the pleasure to inform you that the committee of the Civil and Religious Freedom Society, in this place, unanimously approve of the objects you have lately recommended under the title of the "Forlorn Hope;" in consequence of which some gentlemen (being electors) have agreed to form themselves into an electoral club, the members of which pledge themselves to vote for such parliamentary candidates only as will give satisfactory assurances that they will, on every occasion, vote against all state-pay for religious purposes.

BOSTON.—I joyfully respond to your invitation touching the best plans for organising a "Forlorn Hope," and as I have great confidence in your private wisdom and willingness, I anxiously wait for what the "Forlorn Hope" should do. Amongst other things it would do well, I conceive, to make candidates for municipal as well as parliamentary honours, pledge themselves to this anti-state-church question.

HALIFAX.—If any borough ought to return a thorough voluntary to parliament, it is this. We have strength, if we only put it forth, but we want organisation. I have myself consulted with a few friends about the best mode of procedure. My idea is, to form an association of electors, to be called "The Hampden Club." There is definiteness in the name which I think may be of advantage; and as we needs must have a name, I think we cannot have a better, and I recommend it for general adoption. Then as to rules, the simpler the better; but I shall wait for your advice upon this matter. Our member, Mr Charles Wood, who has represented us ever since the creation of the borough by the Reform bill, has given unusual dissatisfaction by his vote in favour of the Maynooth bill, and there is no chance of his re-election unless there is not another man to be found. But still we must bear in mind that Mr Wood has very considerable influence in the town; he has always been studiously attentive to his parliamentary duties, and to all local interests, obliging to all his constituents, whom he took good care should have a full share of patronage while the whigs were in office; added to which he is undoubtedly a man of high principle and unwavering integrity, and a good portion of the wealthy class are ardently attached to him. Grieved as they are by his Maynooth vote, they are inclined to wink at it. They are indeed reluctant to lose "our own dear Charley." But there is a ferment in the ranks below—the middle class—they are sickened of whig cajolery; and if the wealthy portion bring forward Mr Wood, and the tories bring forward a man, the refusals to vote amongst the Dissenters will give the tory a large majority; but still we ought not to be content with negatives, because we may do better. We

have the power, if the wisdom, to do better. Cannot you send us one of your lecturers—not a fire and turf man, but a man of stirring eloquence—a cogent reasoner—"a good workman, that needeth not to be ashamed?" Of one thing I am resolved, Hampden Club or no Hampden Club, that if I live to see another election, I will, in default of a better, myself oppose Charles Wood, tooth and nail. I can harass him, if I can do nothing better; and there are a few names which I know will stand by me. Prick Halifax upon your list—it is full of hope—"full of slumbering power, yet slow to move."

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Dissenters in this town are in no way remarkable for their anxiety for the advancement of the essential principles of nonconformity; their exertions are too tardy, their remonstrance too feeble, to be effective. They have a regard for forbearance, which in itself is to be commended, but in its consequences, at which they care not to look, disastrous and culpable. I am one of the "young, uninfluential, and poor," but am, as far as regards the advancement of these principles, "prepared to consecrate myself to the work in hand." If I remember rightly, there was mention made in the report of the "Association," of four and eight page tracts, as well as of "people's editions" of valuable works upon this important subject. They are greatly needed. The number of such Dissenters as I have mentioned is very considerable. They value voluntaryism, but not much; they would like to see it in its prosperity, but will wait till an occasion presents itself to give it prominence. These tracts, for extensive circulation, will do much—they will awaken attention, and be small beginnings leading to great results. Such persons cannot fancy there's "respectability" in the decided measures proposed to them. Let these tracts show them that their indecision gains them not respect, but contempt—not deference, but defiance—not independence, but repeated aggressions, on the part of those of whom they seek justice.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—My own deep and solemn conviction is, that our distinctive cry must be our church principles—that we must make every exertion to return men of our own to parliament, and that when we cannot secure even a candidate to stand upon our own principles, we must resolutely refuse our support to the men who may be brought forward, however nearly some of them may approach to us. I think the policy of voting for the "best man" amongst such as present themselves, has been our curse hitherto, and will be our curse to the end of time, if we are mad enough to adopt it. I know many are disposed to act upon such a policy, from the fear that a large preponderance of tories will be otherwise returned; and I am particularly anxious that we should endeavour again and again to expose the folly of this fear. I believe the existence and influence of such a feeling is the very thing we have most to dread. I have no doubt, myself, that the result of our refusal to vote for any but no-endowment candidates will be such as these timid parties tremble at; but, so far from fearing such a result, I should rejoice in it with exceeding joy. The return of a large majority of Nonconformists member would be the best thing we could hope for; but if we could not secure this, the almost entire exclusion of the "whigs and liberals" would, I take it, be the next best thing, since it would oblige the liberals, free-traders, and others, to respect our power, to feel the necessity of our aid, and hence to provide candidates who had, in addition to their other good qualities, that peculiar one which would recommend them to us. Let but one disastrous general election teach the liberal party that they cannot do without the Dissenters, and I take it they will themselves find us men who are opposed to the principle of endowment. I wish this thought were impressed more upon Nonconformist electors. Our own member, Mr Blewitt, voted against the Maynooth bill, on Noncon. grounds. We are going to have a meeting on the Monday after Bartholomew's day, when we shall make a collection for the Anti-state-church Association. Newport Dissenters are Nonconformist men. You will understand what this means.

CHURCH INNOVATIONS AND CHURCH RATES.—The parish of St Leonard, Shoreditch, has just afforded a practical illustration of the damage resulting to the state church from the introduction of what are termed Tractarian ceremonies and Popish doctrines. Upon a report of the parish surveyor, confirmed by the opinion of two other professional men, the churchwardens demanded a rate of 2d. in the pound (about £1,400) in order to put the fabric in proper repair. The motion was negatived by three successive vestries, ostensibly on the ground that the parishioners were not bound to maintain a church from which they are virtually excluded by the obstinacy of the present incumbent and his curates. After much angry conflict, the question of a rate or no rate came to be decided by a poll of the parish, which commenced on Wednesday, and finally closed on Thursday evening, when the numbers stood thus:—For the rate, 220; against it, 678: majority, 458. The true secret of the large majority thus obtained is explained, by the neutrality observed by the church party, many of the ex-churchwardens, trustees of the poor, and other influential inhabitants, entitled to plurality of votes by property qualifications, not having voted at all; thus unequivocally evincing their disapprobation of the "novelties" introduced into the services of their churches.

THE BISHOP OF WORCESTER held a visitation at the cathedral of that city on Monday, on which occasion he delivered a charge almost exclusively devoted to a condemnation of Tractarian innovations and an undue regard for the forms and ceremonies of the church. The Bible, and the Bible alone, was the

book upon which the Protestant depended in his faith. It was an argument against the doctrines of transubstantiation and the adoration of the Virgin Mary that they could find no traces of them for six centuries of the Christian era. Was it likely that such important doctrines should have been transmitted from the apostles, while they found no traces of them until five or six hundred years after Christ? In this negative sense it was that the true use of antiquity consisted. He also, at some length, defended his vote in favour of the Maynooth grant.

CLERICAL MAGNANIMITY.—The Rev. Josiah Allport, of Birmingham, has resigned the valuable living of Kimbolton, soon after being presented to it by the Duke of Manchester. Believing, from the representations he had received of the wish of the inhabitants to retain the services of their late pastor's curate, that his retention of the living would be a stumbling-block in the way of the gospel, he cheerfully dashed the cup of temporal blessing from his lips, before he had tasted it.—*Liverpool Standard.*

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—Last week the various preliminary proceedings to the holding of the Conference took place in Leeds. From the education report it appears that, of the sums promised for education, £3,000 are still due, £17,211 having been paid. The total of Sunday scholars in England and Scotland is 406,837, and the cost of the schools £22,600. In the week-day and infant schools, 332 in number, there are 30,666 scholars, and the annual cost is about £17,000. On Tuesday the committees on chapels and missions met, and very satisfactory reports were made. The meeting of the theological committee took place at five p.m., when the various reports of the governors, tutors, and examiners, were read, and afforded the meeting the highest satisfaction. The Conference assembled on Wednesday morning, at nine o'clock, and proceeded to fill up "the hundred"—that is, the Conference, as legally constituted by Mr Wesley's deed, whose official sanction is necessary to the validity of all the acts of the ministers assembled. Only three vacancies had occurred during the year; two of these were filled up from among the most senior ministers, and the third by election. The next business was to elect the president. Two hundred and eighty ministers voted, all who have traveled fourteen years having this privilege. Some minor numbers were announced, but the contest lay between the friends of two highly respectable and influential ministers, Mr Atherton having 57 votes, and Mr Stanley 121. Mr Stanley was therefore officially declared to be president of Conference for the ensuing year. Very general satisfaction was expressed by the ministers present when the result of the votes was made known. Mr Stanley is by far the most distinguished minister of the liberal party in the Wesleyan Conference, and it is generally understood that he has for many years been kept out of the chair solely on the ground of his taking a liberal view in general and ecclesiastical politics. Mr Stanley's remark in reference to Puseyism is characteristic:—"We fondly imagined that the church of England was a bulwark against Popery, but we now find it is a bridge to it." The Wesleyan Conference avowed themselves Non-conformists last year—they now have elected the leading preacher of the liberal party to the presidential chair. Dr Newton has been re-elected secretary. At twelve o'clock the doors of Brunswick chapel were thrown open for a public prayer-meeting, when there was a large attendance of friends. On Thursday evening the General Education Committee met at five o'clock, to consider some important matters. A normal school is proposed, and we understand that it is highly probable that such a school will be established in Leeds. On Friday evening the adjourned meeting of the committee for the review of chapel affairs took place. It appears that from 100 to 120 chapels have been erected annually for several years past; and the Chapel Building Committee, without whose permission no chapel can be built or enlarged, during the past year gave permission for the erection of 130 chapels, the estimated expense of which is upwards of £50,000. Nearly a quarter of a million of money has been expended within the last few years in reducing chapel debts. Upwards of 480 ministers are expected, and about 460 had arrived in Leeds on Friday. The Conference has resolved on the formation of a *normal school* in London, and also, that masters trained in the Wesleyan day school, now in the course of erection in the town of Leeds, shall, if approved upon examination, be certified as duly qualified to take charge of any Wesleyan school. Mr Farmer, at the meeting on education on Thursday, had promised to give £1 for every school raised, even should the whole contemplated number of 700 be built; and if, to assist those who dwell in poor districts, building fund should become necessary, he would subscribe £100 towards it. Mr Kaye made a like promise in reference to a building fund. The Conference is, as our readers are doubtless aware, composed exclusively of *ministers*. Not only are their deliberations confined strictly to the ministerial class, but, except once or twice during the sittings of each Conference, the lay members are not permitted to be present EVEN AS HEARERS AND SPECTATORS OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

THE UNITED SECESSION SYNOD.—Dr MARSHALL v. DR BROWN.—This reverend court commenced its sittings last week, and has been chiefly occupied with a case of libel brought by Drs Marshall and Hay against Dr Brown, the senior professor of the body. After some considerable discussion as to the proper time for tabling this libel, it was eventually agreed by a large majority that the libel, if brought forward at all, should be laid on the table during the present sittings of the Synod, as it would look somewhat ungracious to keep a libel over the Rev. Professor's head during some six months, when he had to be engaged in teaching the classes in the Divinity

hall, as well as in his usual ministrations. On Thursday week the libel was brought forward, and after some alterations proposed on Tuesday, and the hearing of Dr Brown's defence, it was agreed to take up the libel immediately, assuming its relevancy, and to hear parties on both sides of the question. The libel contains a number of counts; but only three of twelve are founded on his (Dr B.'s) words, the rest of them being the words of his late lamented colleague, Dr Balmer. He denies the relevancy of any of the counts, and defends himself, quoting the standards. It may seem premature to say anything of the case; but we have no doubt that the libel will be deemed irrelevant by a great majority. The points at issue are so intricate as to exclude discussion. We apprehend Dr Brown would find it as easy to frame a libel against Dr Marshall, as Dr Marshall did to libel Dr Brown, though the difference between the parties may turn out after all to be more verbal than opinionative. It is generally supposed that a considerable change of opinion has taken place of late years among the majority of the ministers and members of the secession church; but, at all events, no important change has taken place in the views of the senior professor. On the other hand, and it is a remarkable fact, Dr Marshall has but lately changed his opinions very considerably on some of the points on which he attacks Dr Brown. We are glad, however, that this important affair is to be finally settled. The peace of the church can only be restored by an understanding, or a separation taking place among the contending parties.—*Glasgow Examiner.*

THE GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The following is an extract from a letter from Leipsic, of the 20th ult.:—"Our government beholds, with great inquietude, the tendency of the reformers of the German Catholic church. A great number of Protestants are joining the sect, which appears likely to cause much perturbation in men's consciences. We follow with great interest all the changes of these religious manifestations. Ronge, who had organised the communes of the German Catholics in Silesia, lately proceeded to Königsberg, in Prussia, and thence to Dantzig. In this latter city he was received with extraordinary honour, and preached in the open air to an immense concourse of persons. During his stay, he laid the foundation of an organisation similar to that of Silesia, and has made a great number of proselytes. It is said, that he has just quitted Dantzig to go and confer with Czerski on some dogmas of the new church. It was remarked, that in his religious ceremonies, and in performing the mass, he evinced much more simplicity than Czerski, and contented himself with having prayers recited, which pleased the Protestant proselytes much. Our government (Saxon) has just taken energetic measures against the tendencies of the reformers. The four ministers charged by the constitution to watch over the Protestant worship, have just published a strong proclamation against the innovators. They declare that they will oppose, to the utmost of their power, the partisans of the new church, and they positively prohibit all meetings to attack the profession of faith of the Protestants of the Confession of Augsburg." We find the following in the *Constitutionnel*:

"Several of the German states have, at the suggestion of the Court of Rome, been making repeated applications to the cabinet of Berlin for the repression of the schism which has started up in the midst of Catholicism in Germany. The Prussian government have at length given a peremptory answer, which will be far from satisfactory to Rome. It refuses to do more than it has already done, viz., not give any legal authorisation to the German Catholic church; to go further, it declares, would, in its opinion, be incompatible with the principles of the government. The Prussian government has taken advantage of this opportunity to remind the applicants, that when, some years since, it found itself in an embarrassed position, on account of the question of mixed marriages, it had addressed itself to the Catholic governments, demanding them to prevent the proceedings of the Jesuits, and the incendiary provocations of the Ultramontane party, but that no attention was paid to its remarks. The movement, which has all the character of a schism, and which so much afflicts the Catholic church, is, the answer states, only the result of the culpable conduct pursued by the Ultramontanists towards Prussia."

THE SPEAKER.—As is customary on the Saturday preceding the prorogation of parliament, gave a grand dinner on Saturday last, at his mansion in Eaton square, to the principal officers of the House of Commons.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—It is confidently expected that parliament will be prorogued not later than on Saturday next. If by any exertion the business of the session can be despatched before, the prorogation will take place on Thursday, the 7th inst. Her Majesty will, it is expected, embark upon her continental tour in the evening of the same day, whether the House be dismissed on Thursday or Saturday. The King of the Netherlands is also expected to quit England on Saturday next.—*Times.*

THE NEW SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF CONTROL.—Lord Mahon will, we understand, succeed Mr Emerson Tennent as one of the secretaries to the Board of Control. Mr E. Tennent will visit Egypt on his way to Ceylon, in the hope of being able to conclude with the Pasha the postal treaty, in respect to which Mr Bourne has so lamentably failed.

MILLIONAIRES.—The will of the late Earl of Stamford and Warrington has been proved, and probate granted, for the personal estate within the province of Canterbury for £140,000. Probate has also been granted to the executors of the late John Marshall, Esq., of Hallsteads, where, within the same limits, the personal property has been sworn under £160,000.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Anatomy act, for inquiry into, 2.
Charitable Bequests act, for repeal of, 8.
County Courts, for establishment of, 6.
Courts of Law and Equity, for removal of, 7.
Factories, for limiting hours of labour in, 6.
Fine Arts, for encouraging, 3.
Income Tax, complaining of, 2.
Lord's-day, for better observance of, 1.
Maynooth College bill, against, 1.
Mechanics' Institutes (Ireland), for encouragement of, 3.
Parochial Settlement bill.
Public Houses, for limiting number of, 3.
Promiscuous Intercourse, for amending law, 68.
Physic and Surgery bill, against, 1.
Schoolmasters (Scotland), for improving their condition, 1.
Scotch Universities bill, for, 1.
South Australia, for General Assembly, 1.
Tailors' Trade, for inquiry into, 2.
Waste Lands (Australia) bill, against, 1.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.

Silk Weavers bill.
Exchequer Bills (£9,024,900) bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Fees (Criminal Proceedings) bill.
Waste Lands (Australia) bill.
Exchequer Bills (£9,024,900) bill.
Consolidated Fund bill.
Silk Weavers bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Apprehension of Offenders bill.
Fees (Criminal Courts) bill.
Waste Land (Australia) bill.
Exchequer Bills (£9,024,900) bill.
Consolidated Fund bill.
Silk Weavers bill.
Supply—£80,300, superannuation and retired allowances; £5,700, Toulonge, Corsican emigrants, American loyalists, &c.; £1,850, vaccine establishment; £3,000, Refuge for the Destitute; £11,800, Polish refugees and distressed Spaniards; £2,237, sundry allowances formerly defrained from the civil list, the hereditary revenue, &c.; £9,146, miscellaneous charges formerly on the hereditary revenues of Scotland; £13,629, House of Industry, Dublin; £1,000, Female Orphan House, Dublin; £2,500, Westmoreland Lock Hospital, Dublin; £1,000, Lying-in Hospital, Dublin; £1,500, Dr Stevens' Hospital, Dublin; £3,500, Fever Hospital, Dublin; £300, Hospital for Incurables, Dublin; £35,630, Nonconforming, Seceding, and Protestant Dissenting ministers in Ireland; £7,840, concordat fund and other charities and allowances, Ireland; £98,565, New Zealand; £1,500, commission on public health; £3,400, commission on criminal law; 26,000, townland survey of Ireland; £29,597, Shannon navigation; £782, ambassador's residence, Paris; £13,000, rebuilding British ambassador's house at Constantinople; £50,000, steam navigation to India; £16,000, militia and volunteers, Canada; £150,000, harbours of refuge, and improvement of Holyhead harbour; £1,300, repairing St Margaret's church, Westminster; £4,875, purchase of collections for the British Museum; £2,000, for statues of Hampden, Lord Falkland, and Lord Clarendon; £1,815, salaries, officers (Scotland), and charges formerly on the hereditary revenue; £6,444, salaries of officers of the household of the Lord-lieutenant of Ireland; £29,000, her Majesty's foreign and other secret services; £75,000, public education, Great Britain; £75,000, education in Ireland; £4,911, School of Design; £7,388, grants to Scottish Universities; £49,048, British Museum; £50,000, to complete the sum of £100,000, for civil contingencies; £500,000, to discharge the like amount of supplies granted for the year 1844, and for any preceding years; £7,528, retired allowance to captains in the navy.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Court of Chancery bill.
Stock in Trade bill.
Removal of Paupers bill.
Small Debts (No. 3) bill.
Customs Laws Repeal bill.
Customs Management bill.
Customs Duties bill.
Warehousing of Goods bill.
British Vessels bill.
Shipping and Navigation bill.
Trade of British Possessions abroad bill.
Customs Duties and Allowances bill.
Isle of Man Trade bill.
Smuggling Prevention bill.
Customs Regulation bill.
Joint Stock Banks (Scotland and Ireland) bill.
Apprehension of Offenders bill.
Municipal Districts, &c., (Ireland) bill.
Games and Wagers bill.
Valuation (Ireland) bill.
Turnpike Roads (Ireland) bill.
Slave Trade (Brazil) bill.
Naval Medical Supplemental Fund Society bill.
Real Property (No. 1) bill.
Assignment of Terms bill.
Waste Lands (Australia) bill.
Fee (Criminal Proceedings) bill.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, July 30th.

INCOME TAX EXORTION.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr FIELDEN drew attention to the treatment which he had received from the income-tax commissioners. Mr Fielden and his brothers, as manufacturers at Todmorden, had made returns based on their accounts for the years 1839, '40, and '41, and 1840, '41, and '42, stating no profit on either period, but a loss. They had submitted proofs of that to the income-tax commissioners at Rochdale, the truth of which was not denied; but the commissioners confirmed their own assessments, assuming a large profit; the company's goods were seized and sold by the sheriff—goods were taken and sold to an amount exceeding the demand, and no account had been rendered to the owners. They have now been proceeded against for arrears of taxes due on the 10th October last. In making their return for the year ending on the 5th April, 1845, they filled up a form specially supplied by the receiving inspector; who supposed that an account made out in the way prescribed would satisfy the commissioners. It did not do so; but they lowered their assessment from £24,000 to £12,000. The commissioners had no more ground for fixing on the smaller than the larger sum; and when they received notice of legal proceedings, Messrs Fielden wrote to the surveyor of taxes, and to the solicitor of the board of stamps and taxes, explaining the case, but the board declined to interfere. Mr Fielden had taken oath as to the correct

ness of his returns, and had offered to show his books; but the general commissioners would not look at them, and issued their warrant to distrain upon the goods—a third time sold to pay the tax. He brought forward the case as a public question, believing it to be the case of thousands. He moved for a variety of papers on the subject.

Mr WILLIAMS seconded the motion; deprecating the official practice of always assuming that subordinate officers must be right.

Mr GOULBURN agreed to produce some of the papers, but not others, as they were extra-official. He doubted whether there were thousands of similar cases; for, if so, government had heard nothing of them. He regretted any inconvenience to Mr Fielden; but a general law must be obeyed; and he believed that if injustice had been done, it was Mr Fielden's own fault. It did not follow that his truth or honour was impeached, because his returns were not regarded as accurate. Mr Goulburn believed that the dispute arose on the mode of valuing stock: the question was, whether cotton that had been purchased some years before at a higher price than it then bore in the market, and manufactured into articles, was to be taken at the loss caused by the difference between the price of that cotton when it was purchased, and that which it bore in the market at the time the assessment was made. The commissioners called for further information, which Mr Fielden refused to give; and Mr Goulburn did not know that they could do otherwise than decide against the party refusing to give the information. The difficulty would not have arisen if he had shown a little less of that British virtue which led him to resist with more than ordinary firmness what he considered an improper intrusion on his private affairs.

Mr FIELDEN said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer must speak from accounts which were incorrect. He had given all the information he could; he had answered any question put to him; he had offered his books for examination; but the first intimation he had of the decision was the levy made on his goods.

Several members supported the motion. Mr HAWES hoped that others would not be discouraged from showing "British virtue" in resistance to arbitrary power conferred by a measure which needs many amendments. Mr BERNAL insinuated that Mr Fielden was not discreet in appealing to the local commission, composed of persons who had taken a very decided part in politics. Mr HUME objected to the irresponsible nature of the authority intrusted to the persons empowered to raise four or five millions sterling. Mr BROTHERTON objected to the manner in which the land-tax commissioners are appointed; and stated, that the reason why Messrs Fielden returned "no profits" was, that *their humanity would not allow them to stop their works*, and the consequence was that there was a vast accumulation of stock. They had had no less than 600,000 pieces of cloth on hand, which were unsaleable. Captain PECHELL hoped the government would take into consideration the cases of those persons having incomes under £150 a year who had been surcharged, but who had never had the excess returned to them.

Sir ROBERT PEEL said, that as there was great jealousy of the executive government's inquiring into the affairs of individuals, parliament chose to give that power to private individuals. To provide for the case of local jealousies, the special commissioners were appointed, and to them Mr Fielden should have appealed. Considering the large amount that had been collected under the tax, the proportion of complaints had been much less than could have been expected.

The returns to which ministers assented were ordered.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Mr BERNAL called attention to the recent accidents on the South-eastern and Birmingham railways, as showing the necessity of interference. Sir GEORGE CLERK admitted, that it might hereafter be necessary to impose some more efficient check on railway companies than the mere suggestions which the Board of Trade has no power to enforce. Sir ROBERT PEEL said, more emphatically, that if the moral responsibility which now rests on those who have the management of railways is not sufficient, it will be necessary for parliament to insist on some different system:—

It is constantly urged that the accidents by railways bear no proportion whatever to those which used to occur by stage coach. That is no answer; it is a mere sophistry. We have a right to be insured that those who derive the profits of these railways shall take every possible precaution on behalf of the public. Every precaution that money can provide ought to be taken; and there can be nothing worse than that the public mind should be disturbed by the constant fear of these accidents. It is unfortunate for the railways themselves that the growing public confidence in them should be destroyed. It does seem that in these recent cases the accidents which have occurred, might have been prevented by due precaution. If by the employment of ill-qualified subordinate officers, these accidents are rendered more likely to happen or more frequent, then it will be the duty of parliament to step in and demand a reduction of the profits of those who are concerned in the railway, in order that due precautions may be taken to insure the public safety.

Mr HUME observed, that there was not at present sufficient responsibility on the directors. Viscount PALMERSTON mentioned his own experiences in traveling from Dover to London, with two engines to push the trains through the tunnels. On inquiry, he was informed, that from a desire of economy, a set of engines were employed by the company which were not strong enough singly to do the work, and that two engines therefore were used where one would otherwise have been sufficient.

NATIONAL DEFENCES.

Lord PALMERSTON called the attention of parliament to the great deficiency in our present means of national defence. He contrasted the strength of the land and sea forces of France with our own, and showed that we were not in a condition to meet any sudden hostile attack, and dwelt upon the necessity of placing our dockyards and naval arsenals in a proper condition of defence, and of providing along our coasts convenient harbours of refuge. He pointed out the possibility of sudden invasion, and called upon the government to re-organise the militia, which would be the means of calling into arms within a fortnight 50,000 men in Great Britain, and 20,000 more in Ireland. The knowledge that the government had such a force at its command would be a most powerful assistance in preserving it from difficulties which might ultimately terminate in war.

Sir R. PEEL denied that the country was in the defenceless position described by Lord Palmerston. If we should be compelled to resort to hostilities, it would be found that there never was a period when so formidable a demonstration of the energies of the country could be made as now. He was surprised at the apprehensions which Lord Palmerston had just expressed. His lordship had been ten years in office as minister of war; a circumstance which would not prevent him from stating that we were now in a far better situation to repel hostilities than we had ever been during his lordship's administration. During that period there had been no ballot for the militia; there had not been such an amount of military force in the country; there had not been so many sail of line in the channel as at present. With regard to foreign powers, he should not hesitate to provide measures for the contingent security of the country, whatever offence it might give them. In taking into account the defensive power of this country, Lord Palmerston had omitted from his list the disciplined body of pensioners who had once served in the army and the marines, and who were liable to be again called into service—a force amounting to 50,000 men at least. Twenty years ago he had felt that the militia was in an unsatisfactory condition, and that some alteration ought to be made in its constitution. The ballot for the militia could at any moment be put into force, for it was only suspended at present. He would not state to Lord Palmerston his intentions on that subject at present. He hoped that the House would not force him to any further explanation on these subjects. The naval arsenals were now safe; the dockyards were in repair; and the government was taking measures for establishing harbours of refuge at Harwich, Dover, and other points of the coast. Lord Palmerston urged us to make further provision for our defence, because we had a large surplus of revenue. It was true that we had; but who was to be thanked for it? He concluded by declaring that he was placed by the noble lord in a situation in which he must rest upon the confidence of the House, and abstain from making those disclosures, which could be easily made, and which would be the best answer to his (Lord Palmerston's) observations.

After a few words in explanation from Lord PALMERSTON, and some remarks from Sir C. NAPIER upon the deficiency of our war steamers, the superiority of the French steamers, the insecurity of our dockyards and naval arsenals, and the difficulty which we had to encounter in manning the navy, the subject was allowed to drop.

ENGLISH REGIUM DONUM.

The House having resolved itself into a committee of supply, and passed several votes, at length came to that described as "a sum of £4,932 for allowances to persons who had received pensions under the civil list and from the hereditary revenues of the Crown, and for whom no provision had been made by parliament." This includes the English *Regium Donum*, amounting to nearly £1,700.

Mr HINDLEY stated that this payment was generally objected to by two of those bodies for whose sakes it was annually made—namely, the Independents and the Baptists; and that, in accordance not less with his own views than with the desire of the majority of those bodies, as expressed by the Congregational and Baptist Unions, the general body of Protestant Dissenting ministers of the Three Denominations, the general body of Dissenting Deputies of the Three Denominations, the Council of the British Anti-state-church Association, the Anti-Maynooth Conference held at Crosby hall, and various other Dissenting bodies, he stood there to repudiate the grant in the name of the great body of Evangelical Protestant Dissenters in England and Wales (to which this grant is confined), as alike opposed to their principles, and abhorrent to their feelings. It was well known that the English Dissenters were decidedly opposed to all state endowments for religious purposes; and that, in nearly every form which could be devised, they had declared themselves as specially opposed to this paltry pittance, by the continued reception of which its distributors, and those among whom it was distributed, brought upon their ministerial brethren, and the whole of the denominations with which they are respectively connected, the intolerable, because unjust, reproach of actually receiving state pay, while protesting against its reception by others. They had, in vain, called upon the trustees and recipients to throw up the grant; and now they had no alternative remaining, but to call upon the House of Commons to do them the justice of withholding a grant which, although gentlemen were found who thought it not inconsistent with their principles as

Dissenters, to distribute and receive it, was manifestly repugnant to the convictions, as well as the feelings, of the great body of Dissenters of all denominations. For this reason, and because he was himself opposed on principle to state endowments for religious purposes, he should divide the House against the grant, thereby enabling those members who represented Dissenting constituencies to aid them in giving effect to their frequently declared wishes, and at least putting it upon record in the journals of the House, and publishing to the whole civilised and Christian world, that, if the public money is granted by parliament for the benefit of Dissenters, it is in opposition alike to the principles and feelings of the great majority of that body [hear, hear]. Mr Hindley concluded by moving, as an amendment, that so much of the proposed vote of £4,932 as is usually paid to Protestant Dissenting ministers, that is, about £1,700, be withdrawn.

Mr CARDWELL, who avows that he has too much respect for the Dissenting ministers, either to promote a return of the names of the recipients, or to deprive them of the benefit of the grant, opposed the amendment, and supported the original vote.

Mr WILLIAMS opposed the vote on the same ground as the honourable member for Ashton. The House then divided, when there appeared—for the original motion, 52; for the amendment, 8: majority against the amendment, 44.

IRISH REGIUM DONUM.

£35,630 was then proposed for paying Presbyterian ministers in Ireland.

Mr S. CRAWFORD had given notice of his intention to oppose this grant. It was necessary that the government should act upon some uniform principle in regard to these grants; and the system of paying Dissenting ministers must either be allowed to shrivel up, or it must, on the other hand, be very greatly extended. He supported the voluntary principle, and therefore he was opposed to the grant altogether. There were some pensions to widows and orphans, to which he was not opposed; he would, therefore, move that the vote be reduced to £366. Although most anxious to carry out the voluntary principle, still he thought it would be an injustice to the present incumbents if they were deprived of that which they had so long enjoyed; he would, therefore, be quite satisfied to allow the grant now, on an assurance from her Majesty's government, that the payments would cease as they died off, and would not be renewed to their successors. He moved accordingly.

Mr WILLIAMS was strongly opposed to that House voting any of the public money for the purpose of paying the clergymen of any denomination, or under any circumstances.

Mr HINDLEY said, Dissenters were divided in regard to the question of state grants. The Presbyterians of the north of Ireland still upheld the propriety of endowments, and might consistently enough receive the grant; the Independents and the Baptists altogether repudiated state pay, and, of course, refused it. He, with his hon. friend the member for Rochdale, had so much respect for vested interests, that he would willingly consent to the vote so long as the present incumbents lived or held their present incumbencies; but, as a matter of course, the vote would annually decrease until it was altogether swept away, as it ought to be.

Dr BOWRING opposed the vote.

Mr HUME said the House ought not to divide upon the question, until some one of her Majesty's ministers stated whether the government were willing to act in that case as they did in Canada. There, when the colony undertook to maintain her own religion, those persons on the list when the change was made continued to receive their salary while they lived, but no one was added. The consequence was, that the vote for Canada has been reduced from £21,000 to between £10,000 and £11,000. They must have an assurance upon the subject before they could properly divide upon the vote. But they ought to get rid of them altogether, for the Dissenters did not want them.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he certainly should not wish to purchase the support of the hon. gentleman by saying that he would be a party to discontinuing the grant at any particular period.

The committee then divided—for the reduced vote, 13; against it, 71: majority, 58.

The vote was then agreed to; as was a sum of £7,340 for charitable allowances in Ireland.

NEW ZEALAND.

On the vote of £22,565 for New Zealand, Mr J. A. SMITH stated, that negotiations had been resumed between the Colonial Office and the New Zealand Company; and that the result only wanted the final approval of Lord Stanley, who was unavoidably absent from town: but he asked, if the hope of a favourable issue were not realised, whether Sir Robert Peel would afford another opportunity, before the close of the session, for some remarks on the present state of New Zealand?

Sir ROBERT PEEL promised to do so; but expressed "a strong desire—a very strong desire," to co-operate in the colonisation of New Zealand, and to bring the differences with the Company to a conclusion.

Mr HOPE stated, that a gentleman, quite unconnected with the subject, had been called in to give his advice, and he was now engaged in arranging the matter for his full consideration.

Mr ROEBUCK, Mr HAWES, Mr BULLER, Mr AGLIONBY, and Lord EBRINGTON, expressed satisfaction at the prospect of harmony between the government and the company; Mr Buller remarking, that the present vote ought to be made sufficient to pay all the debts of the colony. Mr HOPE replied, that one

of the inconveniences resulting from the imperfect state of the information supplied by Captain Fitzroy was, that the knowledge of the colony's financial condition was very vague, and the estimates were therefore imperfect. Mr WILLIAMS asked whether that meant that there would be a supplemental vote? Mr HOPE intimated, that perhaps there might. On this Mr WILLIAMS and Mr OSBORNE twitted some members with giving up the general colonial question, now that the company seemed likely to get their million of acres.

Ultimately, the vote was agreed to, with several others, including £150,000 for harbours of refuge.

MISCELLANEOUS VOTES.

The next vote, of £1,200, for the expense of repairing St Margaret's church, Westminster, was opposed by Mr BORTHWICK, who thought it would be better if this church were pulled down, and a new one built in another part of the district, which contained a population of 30,000. Mr SHEIL was curious to know—he would not use another adjective [laughter]—whether the noble lord, or any gentleman in that House, had ever attended divine service in St Margaret's church? Lord SANDON: I did once. The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER: I did twice [great laughter]. Mr SHEIL: The Speaker attended once a-year, and it was not wonderful that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should have twice accompanied him; but it was admitted, that very few members did avail themselves of the accommodation afforded to them: on the last occasion he believed there were only sixteen present. The committee divided; the numbers were—for the vote, 44; against it, 19: majority, 25.

Another discussion arose on the vote of £75,000 for public education in Ireland; Mr HAMILTON attacking the national system. In reply to Mr WYSE, Sir JAMES GRAHAM stated, that government intended to found model-schools in Ireland; to grant a charter of incorporation to the national board, so that they might purchase land as sites for school-houses; and to improve the character of existing school-houses.

The next vote was £7,380 to the Scotch Universities, formerly paid from the hereditary revenues of the Crown. Mr S. CRAWFORD, objecting to any grant to a professor of divinity, moved that the vote be reduced to £7,228. The House divided, and there were—for the amendment, 9; against it, 66: majority, 57. The vote was then agreed to.

The sum of £2,100 was then proposed for the expenses of the Royal Belfast Academical Institution. Mr S. CRAWFORD, again objecting to any grant to a professor of divinity, moved that the sum be reduced to £1,900. After a few words from Mr HINDLEY, Mr S. CRAWFORD said he would not press his amendment to a division, and the vote was agreed to.

On the vote of £50,000 to make up the sum of £100,000 for civil contingencies, Mr WILLIAMS objected to one of the items, for the traveling expenses of colonial bishops, and announced his intention of dividing the House upon it. For this purpose he would move the reduction of the vote to £47,000. Captain PECHELL said he observed a sum charged for the entertainment of Queen Pomare and her consort, when she took shelter on board of the Cormorant, whilst stationed at Tahiti. He wished to know from whom it was that Queen Pomare sought the protection and shelter afforded by the Cormorant? Sir G. COCKBURN said that Queen Pomare sought a refuge on board the Cormorant when her island and capital were taken possession of by the French. Mr HINDLEY said he was glad to see the sum referred to by the hon. and gallant member on the votes, as it showed that some sympathy existed in England towards the Queen of Tahiti. After some further conversation, the committee divided—for the vote, 68; against it, 11: majority, 57.

On the vote of £7,528 for half a year's allowance to 300 retired captains in the navy, Mr CORRY explained the plan of retirement. Mr WILLIAMS opposed the vote, as the proposed annuities would be equivalent to the sum of half a million. Captain PECHELL thought that the plan would not succeed, on account of the small allowance offered; and Admiral DUNDAS also thought that it would prove abortive. It was applauded by Sir CHARLES NAPIER and Sir GEORGE COCKBURN; and the vote was agreed to.

The House then resumed, and soon after adjourned, at half-past two o'clock in the morning, having sat since noon.

Friday, August 1st.

AFFAIRS OF GREECE.

On the second reading of the Exchequer Bills bill,

Lord PALMERSTON adverted to the present condition of Greece, in the prosperity of which this country was largely interested. The expectations that Greece, as an independent kingdom, would advance in civilisation, had, unfortunately, not been realised. A political intrigue had set aside the minister to whom had been delegated the task of carrying out the provisions of the constitution; and M. Coletti was now pursuing a totally different policy. The liberty of the press was trampled on; revolting tyranny was practised; the country was disorganised; and its revenues being recklessly squandered, the interest of the debt remained unpaid. The excesses committed by the banditti on the frontiers would in all probability lead to political complications, which this country might find it difficult to assuage. He called on the government to interfere by strong representations, so as to restore order and peace, and thus secure to Greece the full benefits of that constitutional freedom which had been guaranteed to it.

Mr BAILLIE COCHRANE corroborated that picture of the state of Greece. The King and people are equally victims of a low intriguer, for such is Coletti.

The barbarities executed under orders are such that the local officers do not like to enter into particulars. But Coletti is the tool of M. Piscatory, the French minister in Greece; and he again, a vain man, is swayed by the French journals, which accused him of weakness; wherefore he tried to precipitate events and to become leader of a war-party. Mr Cochrane strongly censured the insults which obliged General Church to resign his offices in Greece; a man who had sold his commission in the British army to devote the money to Greece, and had, by his counsel, saved the King from a forced abdication.

Sir ROBERT PEEL replied very much as Lord Aberdeen did on Thursday. He said, that however strong his own opinions, he was precluded as a minister from expressing them in the House of Commons, as Lord Palmerston and Mr Cochrane did; but he so far transgressed his own rule as to join in the censure of Sir Richard Church's treatment. Here the matter dropped.

Monday, August 4th.

OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT.

Mr HAWES brought on his motion respecting Mr Wray, the metropolitan receiver of police, the port of which was the conduct of Mr Wray, in acting as the agent for the transfer of £300 derived from the sale of South-eastern railway shares, as a consideration for the parliamentary services of Mr Bonham in 1836, rendered him incapable of being retained in the public service, and that consequently the letter of the Home Secretary censuring his conduct, fell short of the justice of the case.

Sir J. GRAHAM did not defend the conduct of Mr Wray, with whom he had no personal acquaintance. It was on his own responsibility, and without communication with any one, that he had written him a letter pointing out the impropriety of his conduct, and warning him as to the future, and in so doing he considered that he had carried out the report of the committee, which had set forth that the conduct of Mr Wray "was deserving of serious animadversion." He understood that in the draft of the report there existed the words "and deserves the immediate notice of the Secretary of State," which were withdrawn by the committee. Had these words existed in the report presented to the House, it might have rendered it necessary for him to have taken a different course. He thought the justice of the case had been satisfied by the forfeiture of the places of Captain Boldero and Mr Bonham, the latter of whom he still emphatically called his friend, though he had fallen into a grave error, deplored and not palliated by himself. It was alleged that Mr Wray had taken advantage of his position, as a creditor of Mr Bonham's, to make use of him for pecuniary objects; but this was disproved, and he did not see any reason to alter or exceed the censure which he had officially passed on Mr Wray.

Mr SHEIL considered Mr Wray as the most culpable party of those implicated in the transactions.

Mr WILSON PATTEN, as a member of the committee, entertained a strong opinion as to Mr Wray's conduct; but if Sir James Graham had erred at all, it was on the side of lenity, and the pain which had been created by this unhappy business was ample punishment. He moved the previous question.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL would not admit the plea of pain as a reason for the non-performance of an imperative though disagreeable duty. He considered that Sir James Graham, as a minister of the crown, had fallen into an error of judgment in dealing with this case. The committee in Sir Jonah Barrington's case—removed, as he was, for misappropriation of public moneys, did not think it their duty to point out what punishment should be awarded; and Sir J. Graham should not have shaped his conduct towards Mr Wray from information or opinions gathered from individual members of the committee. Pointing out the nature of bribery, he contended that the £300 derived from the sale of the one hundred shares, was a bribe administered by Mr Wray to a member of parliament, for his services in that capacity; and he saw not the justice of punishing a hand-loom weaver, a cobbler, or a labourer, for taking five or ten pounds for his vote, accepting the money perhaps to maintain his family, and permit the person who bribed a member of parliament with £300 to escape with a slight censure. Were their resolutions against bribery to be a dead letter? He did not think that criminality attached to the conduct of Captain Boldero; but Mr Bonham had not been able to withstand the temptation of a bribe, and the briber, Mr Wray, had been allowed to escape with a slight censure.

Sir ROBERT PEEL admitted that pain should not lead them to shrink from the performance of an indispensable duty. But he had never, in the whole course of his public life, performed a more painful duty than in advising her Majesty to accept the resignations of Captain Boldero and Mr Bonham, both of whom he eulogised, and his friendship for the latter he avowed, the more especially that he was suffering the consequences of a serious indiscretion. He reviewed the report, contending that the government had acted strictly on its discriminative censures, accepting the resignations of their personal and political friends, dismissing Mr Hignett, and seriously animadverting on the conduct of Mr Wray. It might suit such a stoic and Spartan as Lord John Russell to administer the same punishment to the weak and helpless as to those who were protected by their connexions: but the government had drawn the distinction, in the perfect conviction that even if they had erred on the side of lenity, they had not marred the effect of punishment, as a preventive for the future.

Mr HUME termed Mr Wray his friend, whom he had long known, and considered to be an honourable man, on whose mind the censure of the Home

Secretary, coupled with such a debate, would operate with a severity which he considered adequate to his offence.

Lord EBENSTON, Mr WARD, and Colonel PEEL, next addressed the House, the two latter vindicatory of the general character of the gentlemen who have been implicated in these transactions.

Sir J. EASTHOPE, Sir R. H. INGLIS, Mr MITCHELL, and other members having spoken, and Mr HAWES having replied, the House divided on the "previous question." Ayes, 81; noes, 18: majority, 63.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DIVISION ON THE ENGLISH REGIUM DONUM.—The following are the names of the minority of eight who supported Mr Hindley's motion on Wednesday last:—Henry A. Aglionby, Hon. Edward Pleydell Bouverie, Dr Bowring, Joseph Brotherton, William S. Crawford, George Duncan, Joseph Hume, James H. Langston. Tellers for the ayes, Mr Hindley and Mr William Williams.

DIVISION ON THE IRISH REGIUM DONUM.—The following are the names of the minority who supported Mr S. Crawford's motion, opposing the Irish Regium Donum:—Henry A. Aglionby, Hon. Edw. Pleydell Bouverie, Dr Bowring, Joseph Brotherton, John Dennistoun, George Duncan, Matthew Forster, Archibald Hastie, Charles Hindley, Joseph Hume, James Haughton Langston, John Arthur Roebuck, John Twizell Wawn. Tellers for the ayes, Mr William Williams and Mr Sharman Crawford.

THE WASTE LANDS (AUSTRALIA) BILL, a government measure, which came down from the Lords, has encountered an obstinate and fatal opposition from the representatives of colonial interests in the Commons. On Wednesday the second reading was carried, but on Thursday all the clauses but one relating to Van Diemen's Land, were abandoned. After a short discussion, which turned chiefly on the subject of the free admission of Australian corn, Mr VILLIERS told ministers he thought that all opposition to the bill would be withdrawn if the government would give them the assurance that next session the corn of the colony would be admitted duty free. He called on the agricultural members to express their opinion on the subject. The League gives the following description of an incident connected with this discussion, which much amused the House:—

Very few of the country gentlemen were present; but I observed the newly-elected member for West Suffolk, Mr Bennet, sitting behind the prime minister, taking a lively interest in the proceedings, and looking an important as if he considered himself to be fulfilling his high destiny by watching the movements of the Free Traders. Mr Villiers at length rose, and in precisely that tone and manner, that due mixture of sarcasm and drollery which may be termed *malicious*, called the attention of "the hon. member for West Suffolk, who had recently been returned to this House" to the point at issue, and invited him to give the House the benefit of his opinion. All eyes were turned upon the new member, whose countenance instantly assumed such an expression of mingled surprise and terror, that the hon. member for Wolverhampton had great difficulty in proceeding with his remarks, from the interruptions caused by the general titter, which was heartily joined in by Sir Robert Peel and Sir J. Graham; and ultimately Mr Villiers himself was obliged to stop, and share the laughter. After the hon. gentleman had concluded his remarks, all eyes were again turned to Mr Bennet. Everybody expected him to rise. But no; there he sat, with the same terror-stricken features. He might have been nailed to the bench, so immovable was he fixed to the seat. The Speaker put the question, and the discussion closed, amidst the renewed laughter on both sides of the House.

A NEW WRIT was ordered, on Thursday, for Kirkcudbright, in the room of Mr Alexander Murray, deceased.

QUEBEC.—In a committee of the whole House, on Thursday, Mr GOULBURN moved the following resolution; which was seconded by Mr HAWES, generally supported, and carried unanimously—"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct that a sum, not exceeding £20,000, be applied to the relief of the sufferers by the late calamitous fires at Quebec; and assuring her Majesty that this House will make good the same."

LAW OF SETTLEMENTS.—On Thursday, Mr BONKIN, with the acquiescence of Sir James Graham, obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend some particular points in the law of parochial settlements. It would prevent the removal of persons visited with sickness, accident, or other sudden dispensation of Providence, until they should have received relief continuously for a certain number of days; it would prevent the removal of a widow to her husband's settlement, except with her own consent, or twelve months after his death; and it would appoint a barrister of a certain standing as a referee to decide upon the legality of decision at Quarter-sessions on cases of disputed settlement.

SCOTCH AND IRISH JOINT STOCK BANKS.—On Friday, Mr GOULBURN moved to postpone for three months the report on the bill for regulating joint stock banks in Ireland and Scotland; stating that government intended to introduce such a measure next session; and reserving to them the power to include banks that may be established in the interval. The motion passed, of course.

THE LONDON AND YORK RAILWAY.—Early on Friday there was a discussion on the London and York Railway bill; which Mr WARD moved to recommit, on the ground that promoters of competing schemes had not been allowed to bring their cases fully before the committee. This was denied by Lord COURtenay, chairman of the committee, and by some members of that body who dissented from its decision; and the motion was negatived by 79 to 19. The report of the bill was received. The bill

was, after much discussion, read a third time on Monday.

SCENES IN UNION HOUSES.—Mr WAKLEY asked Sir James Graham, whether he had heard that the papers of a union in Hampshire are employed in grinding bones, and that while at their task they quarrel for the bones; drawing out the marrow and gnawing off the meat? Sir JAMES GRAHAM heard the statement with horror: he could not believe that such an abuse existed; but he would at once inquire.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.—Mr HUME suggested the propriety of laying down rules for the transaction of business in the next session of parliament. He would propose that, as at present, Mondays and Fridays should be left to the government, while those who wished to talk might be allowed, with great advantage to public business, to talk themselves out on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Wednesdays he proposed that they should meet at twelve, and adjourn at six o'clock, so as to have a partial holiday between the debating nights. In this way he thought they would dispose of more business than they did at present. Sir R. PEEL said he saw no objection to the arrangement. On the contrary, he believed it would facilitate public business, and it would also afford a relief from the continuous sitting of the House for fourteen hours a day, for five days consecutively—a duty which no man's constitution could stand. Some such arrangement was most desirable. The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said it might be serviceable if hon. members during the recess would read the debates with a view to see how much of the talking might have been advantageously spared, in order to profit by the information in future sessions.

BRAZIL AND THE WEST INDIES.—On the order of the day being read for bringing up the report on the Exchequer Bills bill, Mr M. GIBSON called the attention of the government to the present position of Englishmen resident in the Brazils. He pressed upon the government the necessity of placing Englishmen in that country in as good a position as the subjects of other nations. He also wished to know whether government had heard of any decree issued by the Brazilian government imposing an additional duty of 20 or 30 per cent. on all articles of British manufacture imported into Brazil? He also wished to know whether it was true that the government had guaranteed a loan to any of the West Indian colonies, for the purpose of promoting the immigration of labourers into them? Mr G. HOPE admitted that the Government had guaranteed such a loan, in the case of certain of the West Indian colonies which required it; but in other colonies this had not been done, because the local Assemblies had provided the necessary funds for the purpose of immigration themselves. Sir R. PEEL observed, that the proceedings of the plenipotentiaries of the two countries had been very dilatory on the first subject connected with Brazil to which Mr Gibson had alluded in his statement. As to the imposition of additional duties on British manufactures, no mention of any such fact was made in the last despatches from our minister in the Brazils.

FREE ADMISSION TO CATHEDRALS, &c.—On the motion for receiving the report on the Appropriation bill, Mr HUME called the attention of the House to the practice of exacting fees or receiving gratuities from the public as the condition of their admittance to cathedrals and other public buildings. He thought that such practice was highly improper, and ought to be discontinued. Sir R. PEEL had always expressed an opinion that there was great advantage in giving every access to our ancient cathedrals that was consistent with their safety. That position was, however, liable to one restriction—namely, that security should be taken for the safety of the monuments and other works of art contained within them. He then gave the House an account of a recent order of the dean and chapter of Westminster, for giving the public free admission into the north and south transepts and into the nave of Westminster abbey. A small charge was still to be made, as in continental churches, for permission to visit the different chapels.

The House sat for a short time on Saturday.

INDIAN CORN.—FREE TRADE.—Mr B. ESCOTT, on Monday, gave notice of his intention to move, in the course of next session, that maize and Indian corn be admitted into all ports of the United Kingdom free of duty [cheers from members on the opposition benches].

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—In reply to Mr MORPATT, on Monday night, the Earl of LINCOLN said, that the House of Lords would no doubt be fitted for their reception in 1847; the House of Commons would be prepared, but with considerable difficulty; but he did not think it would be advisable for themselves to insist upon their proceeding to sit. As to the central hall, and many parts of the building necessary for their communication, they could not be completed by that time. The committee-rooms of both houses would, however, be completed by 1847. In consequence of the severe and undeserved attacks made upon him, the architect was affected with illness, and had to retire to the country for two months.

SPA-FIELDS BURIAL GROUND.—In answer to a question, Sir JAMES GRAHAM said, that, by the consent of the Crown, the parties indicted, with respect to the Spa-fields burial ground, had pleaded, and promised to prevent a recurrence of the nuisance complained of.

HOUSE OF LORDS:

Thursday, July 31st.

The royal assent was given, by commission, to sixty bills; whereof twenty-four were public and thirty-six private; twenty-one being railway bills.

Several of the public measures were of the nature of continuance bills; but among the number were the Jewish Disabilities bill, the Bail in Error bill, and the Colleges (Ireland) bill.

Some conversation arose on a motion by the Earl of BESBOROUGH, respecting a prosecution of Stinton, the witness, for alleged perjury before the committee of inquiry on the Dublin and Galway Railway bill. As a doubt was started whether the evidence furnished enough to insure a conviction, without leaving legal loop-holes in the indictment, a committee was appointed to examine the report and advise the House.

STATE OF GREECE.—The Earl of ABERDEEN, in reply to Lord Beaumont, made a short statement on the affairs of Greece. He said, that though the peculiarity of the relations of England with Greece might give her great right of interference when occasion required it, still he did not think the present was a proper case for the exercise of that right. The proceedings on the frontier had been most grossly exaggerated. The whole force under the command of Valentza amounted only to eighteen men, and with these he was represented as striking terror into the Turkish empire. It was his duty to give, and he had given, advice to the Greek government on the matter, but he did not feel bound to say in what that advice consisted, or how it had been received. As for the decline of English influence in Greece, he could not understand what was meant by the charge. The influence of England was based on grounds which would defy the attacks of Coletti and the French party. He wished that, instead of an English, a French, and a Russian party in Greece, there were created a Greek party, the only one that ought to exist.

The Coal Trade bill was then read a second time. After a short discussion, several other bills were forwarded a stage, and their lordships adjourned.

Friday, August 1st.

The select committee on John Stinton's case reported that it would not be expedient to prosecute him.

On the third reading of the Bills of Exchange, &c., bill, Lord MONTEAGLE moved an amendment to make it perpetual. The Earl of DALHOUSIE presumed that the House was not prepared to sanction that total abolition, instead of suspension, of the usury laws. The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH was in favour of continuing merely to suspend the laws; however salutary the suspension might be in time of peace, it would be utterly unmaintainable in time of war; for how could loans then be raised by government? Eventually the amendment was negatived by 37 to 9, and the bill passed.

Several measures were "forwarded a stage."

Saturday, August 2nd.

The House sat only for a short time, to transact some routine business. Several measures received the Royal assent.

Monday, August 4th.

The Earl of HARDWICKE moved, that the report of the select committee on the direct Portsmouth and London railway be taken into consideration; when the Duke of RICHMOND moved the re-committal of the bill, on the plea that the committee had refused to hear the evidence of a competing line. After some discussion, the amendment was carried on a division, and the bill re-committed.

The Valuation (Ireland) bill was abandoned by Lord STANLEY.

THE CONDEMNED PRISONERS AT EXETER.

In answer to Earl FORTESCUE, Lord STANLEY stated, that doubts having been raised as to the legality of the sentence of the seven Portuguese, condemned to death for the murder of midshipman Palmer, and the English seamen on board the Felicidade, the legal question had, with the consent of Baron Platt, been reserved for the opinion of the fifteen judges, and the prisoners would, of course, be resited during the interval.

A considerable amount of business was transacted. There was a debate on the third reading of the Taxing Masters (Ireland) bill, the Earl of WICKLOW moving, as an amendment, that the appointments to these offices should be reserved for solicitors of a certain standing. This was rejected, on a division, and the bill was amended, on the motion of the Lord CHANCELLOR, so as to leave the patronage to be shared with the two classes—barristers and solicitors. The other measures were all more or less of a routine nature, though some of them created considerable discussion.

THE QUEEN is expected in town from Osborne House on Friday, the day previous to the prorogation of Parliament, when her Majesty will hold a privy council at Buckingham Palace, at which the speech to be delivered by our gracious sovereign from the throne will be agreed on.

HER MAJESTY has presented Robert Bell, Esq., with a magnificent vase, in acknowledgment of the promptitude with which he lately surrendered his magnificent seat, Norris castle, in the Isle of Wight, to the use of his Majesty the King of Holland.

THE KING OF THE NETHERLANDS still remains in London, having visited the Queen at Osborne, and the leading members of the aristocracy. On Saturday he dined with Sir R. Peel, and on Sunday with the Duke of Wellington, at Apsley house. On Monday he reviewed the troops in Hyde park, and dined with the Queen Dowager.

Mr LOUIS M'LANE, appointed to succeed Mr Everett as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from the United States, arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday. It is supposed that Mr Everett will set out on his return to America on the 4th September.

NATIONAL TESTIMONIAL TO MR ROWLAND HILL.—The directors of the Bank of England have contributed £100 to the testimonial to Mr Rowland Hill.

THE BAR AND THE PRESS.—The gentlemen of the long robe practising or hoping to practise on the Oxford and Western circuits, have passed a resolution to exclude from the bar mess such of their members as report cases to the newspapers. It is difficult to assign any valid reason for this new rule; some ascribe it to a foolish pride, others to a more sordid motive; but, whatever may have prompted the prohibition, it can only be regarded by all sensible men as a most pitiful proceeding.

The *Times* has the following epigram on the press and the bar:—

The bar bars the press from its travelling mess,
The press from the bar bars the bar;
Which shall first be in need, the unfed or unfead—
Those who are not *in case*, or who are:

REGISTER! REGISTER! REGISTER!

The Following Conditions are necessary to entitle the Voter to be Registered:—

1. He must have occupied during the twelve months previous to the 31st of July. A successive occupation of different premises, each of ten pounds yearly value, will be sufficient.

2. He must have been rated for the premises, to all rates for the relief of the poor, made during the twelve months. Joint occupiers must each be separately rated.

If the premises be partnership property, it is enough if the rating be in the name of the firm.

Any person not on the rate-book, being a separate or joint occupier, may claim to be rated; and on paying or tendering all arrears (if any) then due, he will be entitled to be rated.

If the overseer omit to enter the claimant's name in the rate book, the person claiming will be deemed to be rated from the time the rate was made on which he claimed to be inserted.

3. The voter must have paid, on or before the 20th of July, all poor rates and assessed taxes due from him in respect of the premises during the twelve months previously to the 6th of April then next preceding.

When the rates or taxes are paid by the landlord in consequence of his receiving a higher amount of rent, the payment may be considered as having been made by the tenant.

No remission by the parish, or delay granted by the collector, will dispense with the necessity for payment. The full amount of rates and taxes must be paid, whether any demand has been made by the collector or not.

4. The voter must have resided for six months before the 31st July within the city or borough, or within seven statute miles thereof. The distance to be measured in a straight line.

Occasional absence will not prevent a party from being considered a resident.

Particulars to be attended to from this time to the 25th of August.

The lists of persons entitled to vote for counties and boroughs are now published, and will be affixed by the overseers to the doors of all places of worship within their respective parishes, and by town clerks in the usual manner for a period including the two first Sundays in August.

DUTIES OF ELECTORS IN BOROUGHS.—Every elector should see that his name is inserted in the list of that class of voters to which he belongs; and if he have a two-fold qualification, his name should be on both lists.

CLAIMS BY PERSONS OMITTED, &c.—Any person omitted from the lists, or whose qualification consists of a successive occupation of different premises, one set of premises only being inserted in the list, or who are otherwise incorrectly described, should send in a claim to the overseers, correctly describing all the premises, and also his own present place of abode, according to the following form:—

To the Overseers of the parish [or township] of —

I hereby give you notice, that I claim to have my name inserted in the list made by you of persons entitled to vote in the election of a member [or members] for the city [or borough] of —, and that the particulars of my qualifications are stated in the columns below.

Dated the — day of —, one thousand eight hundred and —

Christian name and surname of the claimant at full length.	Place of abode.	Nature of Qualification.	Street, lane, or other place in the parish [or township], where the property is situate, and number of the houses, if any (when the right depends on property).

(Signed) A. B.

Persons omitted from the list of freemen, should give notice to the town clerk in the following form:—

To the Town Clerk in the city [or borough] of —

I hereby give you notice, that I claim to have my name inserted in the list made by you of persons entitled as freemen to vote in the election of a member [or members] to serve in parliament for the city [or borough] of —, and that my qualification is as freeman of —, and that I reside in — street, in this city [or borough].

Dated this — day of —, one thousand eight hundred and —

(Signed) A. B.

Notices of claim must be delivered to the overseers on or before the 25th day of August.

The House of Commons has altered their standing order upon railway deposits, requiring in all future railway projects a deposit of 10 per cent, instead of 5.

Mr. Brunel has devised a new engine, to run 50 miles an hour, and to work on eight driving wheels.

The REFORM CLUB is to the Whigs what the Carlton is to the Tories. In its councils are settled the electioneering tactics of the Whig aristocracy. It has more policy "than the Tory club, and greater difficulties to contend with, because it has to deal with a section of the constituencies that is more unmanageable than the Tory section—a section much influenced by public opinion, and swayed more or less by the impulsiveness of popular passion." Hence, the Whig club willingly receives into membership men of the demagogue cast. Its agents are ever throwing their nets to catch any popular "liberal" talker, and make him a member; thus flattering his vanity by admitting him to the councils of "the great Reform party," and making him believe that he is a person of much importance. This club is, therefore, composed of the Whig aristocracy and their tools; of a batch of hangers-on, who are put into subordinate offices as opportunity may offer; of men who can talk Radicalism; and a few sincere Reformers who do not exactly understand their own position. This club has its agents in all parts of the nation. Their duty is to hold together a number of electors in each constituency—to transmit to the Reform Club information on the state of the constituencies—the number of "influences"—and how they are to be moved to the Whig side—the number of corrupt electors, and how much money they usually receive for their votes, and a description of the sort of men who are most likely to catch the popular feeling, and have the best chance of beating their Tory opponents. But, their chief duty is to prevent the organisation of an independent body among the electors, and to lead local reformers to believe that all information appertaining to the duty of liberal electors, had better emanate from the central club in London.—*Glasgow Examiner*.

WHAT IS THE USE OF REGISTERING LETTERS?—The Post-Office is no more responsible as to the value of registered than as to that of the unregistered letters; and all that is obtained in consideration of the fee is, a sort of understanding that the letters will be especially looked after.

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 6th.

CHICHESTER has a vacancy in its parliamentary representation, Lord Arthur Lennox having accepted office as a clerk to the Board of Ordnance. A new writ was moved for in the House of Commons last night. Chichester, as a cathedral town, is a close borough—and, doubtless, the blight of priesthood has, in some measure, affected the Dissenters of that city. But, that there are some right-hearted men amongst them we know—and, we confidently anticipate, they will be on the alert. It is impossible for us to prescribe what ought to be done, unacquainted as we are with the precise position of affairs in the locality; but the election ought not to be allowed to pass off without as decided a demonstration as possible of anti-state-church principles.

SUNDERLAND ELECTION.—There was no writ issued last night in the House of Commons, and, as the House adjourned until Friday, it cannot be issued until that day. It was expected that the writ would have been issued last night, as the missing patent by which Earl Grey's peerage is held was found on Saturday, and forwarded to London. Mr Hudson has published an address to the electors, in which he speaks confidently of being returned "by a triumphant majority."

PARLIAMENT.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS sat only for a short time last night. The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved that certain petitions which he had presented against the London and York Railway bill be referred to a select committee, and hoped that no further progress would be made with the bill until the allegations contained in those petitions were investigated. After a short conversation, the motion was agreed to. The LORD CHANCELLOR then called the attention of the House to the amendments which had been made in the Small Debts bill by the House of Commons, and urged the House to agree in those amendments. After some discussion, the amendments, with some additional ones, were agreed to. The Marquis of LONDONDERRY then complained of the delay in the issuing of the writ for the Sunderland election, and after several bills had been forwarded a stage, the House adjourned to Thursday.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS sat last night until half-past 1 o'clock, and then adjourned until Friday.

The earlier part of the sitting was consumed in discussions on various matters connected with railways. Mr. B. DENISON presented a petition from the directors of the London and York railway company, complaining of the allegations contained in the petition presented on Monday from Mr. Henry Bruce, the chairman of the Cambridge and Lincoln railway company, alleging the subscription contract to contain fictitious names and descriptions, and the names of persons unable to pay the sums subscribed by them, and praying to be allowed to take legal proceedings against the petitioner. The matter was warmly discussed, and eventually a select committee

of inquiry was appointed, to commence sitting immediately. This was followed by a discussion on the late railway accidents, and especially the prevailing custom on the principal railway lines, of employing engines in the rear as well as in the front of trains. The practice was generally condemned, and emphatically so by Sir G. CLERK, on the part of the Board of Trade, except where there are steep inclines. It came out, however, that government had no authority in the matter—they could only recommend—that they could do nothing this session—but if the practice became more prevalent, Sir G. CLERK thought it would be right for parliament, early in the next session, to interfere. Mr. WARD then detailed to the House the particulars of the dreadful accident on the Northern and Eastern railway [noticed below], which brought on a further resultless discussion, and an abundance of suggestions from honourable members.

A short discussion on the Silk-weavers bill, affords a striking illustration of the shameful bungling in legislation, prevalent towards the close of the session. The third reading of this measure was moved by Mr. GREENE, who confessed his *ignorance* of its provisions. It transpired, that an hon. member for Leicestershire (his name was not mentioned) had the charge of the bill when it came from the Lords; that he had been obliged to leave town, and had committed it to the charge of Mr. Greene; that it had not been introduced, as a bill for the regulation of trade ought to be introduced, in a committee of the whole House; and that *not a single member knew anything about its different clauses*. The further debate was, after some discussion, adjourned to Friday.

REVIEW OF THE SESSION.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL favoured the House last night with a long and elaborate review of the session, or rather of the deeds of the present administration. It is impossible, in the limited space we have at our command, to give even a general summary of the topics upon which he dilated. His great object was, he said, to show the inherent vice of the Peel policy—the incurable and fatal mischief of constructing a party without a principle, and attempting to govern an empire by makeshifts. The pledge of ministers to their party was, uncompromising enmity to the religion and the franchises of the people of Ireland; their policy is, a Maynooth grant, with the church of England in Ireland as it is, and an unredeemed promise of enlarged municipal and parliamentary franchises; their convictions are in favour of religious and civil equality between Catholic and Protestant, and between Irishman and Englishman. The noble lord after touching upon other Irish questions, said that as to the church of Ireland, he was convinced that government would be driven before long either to endow the Roman catholic church and to place it on the same level with the Protestant, or else to destroy the establishment of the latter, and to leave it to support itself, as the Roman catholic church now did, on the voluntary principle. Either one principle or the other must be the foundation of our future policy. With regard to the corn laws, Lord John said that never was the corn law less reliable than at this moment, for any purpose of protection to farmers, never was it more fatally and energetically operative than at this moment, for infusing a paralysing uncertainty into commercial enterprise, and overclouding our national future with the most distressing anxieties. Farmers are publicly warned by a ministerial politician that the Corn-law has not more than two years' life in it; yet this rickety and perishing thing is just at its *maximum capacity* for mischief. It has brought us into that position, that sunshiny or rainy days, more or less, during the next three weeks, will make the whole difference between increased and extended national prosperity, and the most appalling national distress and disaster.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM replied on the part of government; following the noble lord step by step, and making the best possible defence of a bad cause. On the Irish church question he said that government would never consent to the abolition of the Irish establishment. As to the other branch of the alternative, he would not argue it now; he would only say this, that to the *endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy*, a question which was at present full of difficulty, he had personally no objection. He then entered into a defence of the existing corn laws, and showed that at the present moment the stock of corn in bond was fast accumulating. Instead of sharing in the apprehension of Lord John Russell, ministers entertained a confident expectation that no great increase in the price of corn would now take place.

The organs of the free-traders, the monopolists, the repealers, and the "No Popery" party, having recommended their several species to the attention of the House, Lord John Russell's motion for a list of the bills which had been introduced and abandoned in the present session, was agreed to.

A NEW WRIT was ordered to issue for the city of Chichester, vacant by the appointment of Lord Arthur Lennox to the office of Clerk to the Board of Ordnance.

THE GAME LAW COMMITTEE, not having brought their inquiries to a close, recommend the re-appointment of the committee next session.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—Summons were issued yesterday morning for holding a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace on Friday next, at half-past 2 o'clock, when the Royal speech on the prorogation of Parliament will be submitted for her Majesty's sanction and approbation. The Queen and her illustrious consort are expected in town on the afternoon of Thursday next. Orders have been given for making the necessary preparations for her Majesty proroguing Parliament in person on Saturday.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—On Friday evening last the Rev. D. Katterns of Hackney, Baptist minister, delivered a lecture at the Literary Institution, Gravesend, illustrative of the principles and objects of the association—a lecture at once able, comprehensive, and convincing; and we deeply regret so few were present to hear it. We understand that the more influential part of the audience expressed an earnest wish that another lecture might shortly be delivered there, which, we doubt not, will be complied with.

NIGHT ASCENT OF MR GREEN FROM VAUXHALL.—On Monday night this celebrated aerial *voyageur*—the "Columbus of the skies"—undertook the perilous feat of a night ascent in his balloon, displaying fireworks of a novel and extraordinary description from the car of his frail machine. Mr Green ascended alone, having been previously solicited by the Earl of Munster and Lord G. Beresford to allow them to accompany him; but Mr Green felt it his duty, on account of the hazardous adventure, to decline the honour.—*Globe*.

ABINGDON ELECTION.—A letter has been addressed to General Caulfield, the unsuccessful candidate at the late election, thanking him for the "noble attempts he made to disenthral the borough from the tory clique which has so long pressed, like an incubus, on the energies of the inhabitants." This letter was signed by 155 electors—a larger number than polled for the Attorney-general. We recommend that a copy be transmitted to Sir Frederick. It will serve to enlighten him on two points:—first, that could these electors have voted freely in accordance with their opinions, he would not have now sat for the borough of Abingdon; and, second, that the electors have set their hearts on the worthy General as their future representative.

FRIGHTFUL AND FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE NORTHERN AND EASTERN RAILWAY.

A dreadful accident occurred on Monday afternoon to the down mail train on the North Eastern and Cambridgeline. Shortly after leaving the Wenden station, the train proceeded at great speed towards Cambridge; on approaching Chesterford it is supposed a rail had sprung, which threw the engine off the line, and completely embedded it in the embankment. The concussion which immediately ensued caused the engine to turn over, and unfortunately the stoker fell underneath. It was full two hours before he was extricated, and when taken out he was a charred mass of undistinguishable matter. The engineer also had his thigh broken, and several others also had broken and fractured limbs. Had the accident occurred a little farther on the line (where it is carried over an embankment, instead of within the cutting), the effects would doubtless have been much more dreadful. An express was sent for another engine, when those carriages which had escaped damage proceeded on the journey. Numbers of the terrified passengers sought other conveyances at the Chesterford inn. A luggage carriage, containing much luggage, was burnt. Two valuable horses were extricated from a carriage, not having sustained any serious damage. The official report ascribes the accident to one of the wedges having started from its position. This is the portion of the line which was only opened on Wednesday last. Had it not been for the luggage van and horse box that were placed between the tender and the carriages, the greater portion of the passengers must have been sacrificed. As it is, there is no doubt a vast number more or less injured; but we have been unable to procure any accurate list of their names. The company's officers, however, it should be observed, declared that not a single passenger was hurt. The extent of mischief done is very great. Besides the destruction of the engine and tender, the luggage van was destroyed by fire, as well as the horse box, though the horses were preserved; two second class and a first class carriage were shattered, besides other damage, to the extent of about £6,000.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—At the usual weekly meeting, a letter was read from Mr O'Connell, lauding the late demonstrations at Wexford and Galway, containing a variety of practical suggestions with the view of procuring the return, at the next general election, of 60 members of the Repeal Association, and recommending a conciliatory policy towards the Orange party. Several members addressed the meeting on the relations of this country with America and Texas. Mr J. O'Connell took the opportunity of denouncing slavery, but Mr Scott, a solicitor, deprecated these frequent attacks on their best allies; whereupon there was some warm altercation.—Rent for the week, £267 17s. 11d.

DISMISSAL OF MR WATSON.—On Saturday evening the usual official notification was forwarded by the Chancellor to Mr James Watson, of Lisburn, Ireland, whose name has of late been frequently mixed up in certain transactions connected with the Protestant anniversaries, informing that gentleman that her Majesty's government had directed him to be removed from the commission of the peace, as well as from his office of deputy-lieutenant of his native county.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	670		20			
Scotch				810		
Irish					400	
Foreign ..	1470					

Dull at Monday's prices.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Notices to Correspondents deferred till next week.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
 For 7 lines....5s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
 For every additional line.....4d.
 * Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1845.

SUMMARY.

THE first topic which thrusts itself upon our notice is the state of the weather. We know not what may be the stock of British-grown corn in the country, but competent authorities assure us, that that imported from abroad is sufficient only for six weeks' consumption. We have a new moon, but no change for the better. All is gloom, uncertainty, doubt. A late harvest seems tolerably certain—perhaps a deficient one. The sliding scale of Sir R. Peel, constructed with a view to gratify landlord cupidity, hangs the destinies of the country upon the chances of the weather. Wheat is rising rapidly in price, and the duty on importation is, of course, going down; but, in proportion to the fall of duty here, will be the rise in the price of wheat in the granaries of the continent. What is to be done? Speculators may embark large fortunes in fetching a supply of food to the nation, and before they have accomplished their task, fine weather may have set in to render all their anxiety fruitless and unprofitable. So we must quietly look famine in the face, and see it approach us more closely than the nerves of the strongest can well bear, and yet allow the prevention, by our absurd commercial restrictions, of those very means which alone can save us from ruin. Should we have a bad harvest—no wild improbability, by the bye—we shall be dragged with fearful rapidity upon another monetary crisis. What, then, will become of our numerous railroad schemes, and where will our manufacturing prosperity be found? Every interest will be pinched. All classes, but the landowner, will suffer. Political discontent will again be rife, and it will go hard this time if popular indignation does not sweep away, not merely the monopoly in corn, but those other monopolies, more ancient and deep-seated, of which it is but a modern offspring.

The Sunderland election stands next on the list of subjects in which our readers may be supposed to take an interest. The contest there will doubtless be a severe one, but all our accounts agree in representing that it will probably terminate in the return of Colonel Thompson. King Hudson has addressed his supporters, and proved himself to be more conversant with railways than with politics. His promises are all addressed to the selfishness of those from whom he seeks support. His own object is avowedly a selfish one. His speech from end to end was an insult to any virtuous body of electors; and, had a high tone of morality prevailed amongst the conservative portion of the constituency at Sunderland, Mr Hudson would assuredly have been drummed out of the town. The deepest interest is felt in the contest throughout the country. From all quarters addresses have poured in to the electors of Sunderland, urging upon them a high-minded performance of their duty. Five thousand non-electors of the borough have also, in a similar manner, testified their earnest desire for the Colonel's return. We stated in our last that Mr Cobden was with the Patriarch of free trade. We have now to correct the mistake. He is not there. By what cause detained we are unable to say. We hear, however, that the leaders of the League have dealt most resolutely with the Reform Club in this matter, and threatened, in the event of Colonel Thompson's defeat, to put him up for the Tower Hamlets upon those broad principles which would secure the co-operation of all classes of earnest reformers. Our last advices intimate that the whig electors of Sunderland are at length giving way—that the triumph of just principles is considered certain. There are tricks, however, in abundance. A rumour has reached us that £1,000 has been offered to a leading committee-man to suffer the liberals to fall into a minority during the first two hours of the poll. It may be supposed that such a proposition could only come from the enemy's camp. It did not so. It came from a professed reformer, and the ostensible object was to raise the price of railway shares on certain lines, so that £30,000 might be pocketed before the news of Colonel Thompson's success should again knock down the prices. So much for the patriotism of respectable constituents!

The annexation of Texas to the United States, as announced in the postscript of our last number, has been determined upon. The legislative bodies of the independent republic have adopted a joint resolution, accepting the terms proffered to them by the Plenipotentiary of the United States, and President Polk has sent off a naval force to Rio Grande to prevent any movement by Mexico. The

history of the event, from first to last, is but a record of duplicity and crime, but it is one to which most nations—our own, certainly, not excepted—can furnish a parallel. The same packet which brought these tidings brought also intelligence of a second extensive conflagration at Quebec, scarcely less disastrous than the first, by which another third of the city has been consumed, and some thousands of inhabitants have been left houseless, and ruined. The news has awakened much sympathy in this country; and parliament has made a grant of £20,000 towards the relief of the sufferers.

Railway accidents have come in another cluster as usual. On the Birmingham, on the Great Western, on the Midland counties, and on the Eastern counties, two each; on the Dover, on the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway, one. Of all these accidents the *Spectator* well observes, "There is but one—the last, if that can be accounted an exception—that was not the result of gross carelessness—but one which the smallest forethought and system might not have prevented. A word, an act of the will, as easy to fulfil as what was done, would have made all safe. Sir Robert Peel observes, it is sophistication to say that accidents are proportionately less on railways than elsewhere. They ought to be so: a horse cannot be counted on like machinery; but you can calculate to an inch where your engine shall go—it is never restive—nothing but negligence can turn it from its allotted path at the allotted time. Truly, the Premier's threatened interference need not be delayed for want of proof that it is necessary, when the defective arrangements of railway directors thus waste life and limb in all parts of the country."

Parliament will be prorogued on Friday—the House of Commons having adjourned last night until that day, and the House of Lords having determined to sit through the intervening period, in order to fetch up the arrears of business before them. We have consequently nothing but the dregs of sessional business to report.

On Wednesday evening, in committee of supply, the grant of £4,932 for allowances to persons who had received pensions under the civil list, and from the hereditary revenues of the crown, and for whom no provision had been made by parliament—a grant which includes the English *Regium Donum*, amounting to nearly £1,700—was opposed by Mr Hindley, who moved that so much of the proposed vote as is usually paid to Protestant Dissenting ministers, be withdrawn. He briefly referred to the efforts which had been made by Dissenters to get rid of this reproach upon their consistency and good faith—to the several protests which they had formally entered against it—and to the fact that they had in vain called upon the trustees and recipients to throw up the grant. Eight members only voted with him, whose names we have given in another column. Mr Sharman Crawford opposed the Irish *Regium Donum* on the broad ground of the voluntary principle, when thirteen voted for him, and seventy-one against him. Two other items of supply brought up the question of ecclesiastical taxation, and though, in all cases, opposition was fruitless, discussion must, of necessity, serve the cause of truth. We have only to add that the *Times* and *Morning Chronicle*, with that contempt which they usually evince for all that interests the great body of Dissenters, suppressed all report of the debates which took place on the subjects just referred to.

On the same evening Lord Palmerston took occasion, from a conversation on railway accidents, to enlarge upon the state of our national defences. He appears to be half terrified lest France should pounce upon our half-protected country, and, by the help of her steam navy and 50,000 transports, make a descent upon London, and sack the city. The possibility of France doing this suggests to his mind the desirability of Great Britain increasing her naval and military forces to a considerable extent. Sir R. Peel replied defensively for the existing state of things, but apologetically, for some future augmentation of the army and navy. We shall look, therefore, next session, for the realisation of Lord Palmerston's counsel. It is thus that the governments of Europe bamboozle their subjects. Each increases its complement of physical force, because others have increased theirs—the main design of all being to keep up and sustain the machinery for destroying the liberties of the people.

Mr Fielden afterwards detailed a case of flat robbery inflicted upon him in the shape of income tax, demanded by commissioners, for profits amounting to £12,000; he being able to prove that he kept his mills going for a length of time merely from motives of humanity, to give employment to his work-people, and that his profits amounted to *nil*. "The Chancellor of the Exchequer," says the *Examiner*,

"Had two replies to Mr Fielden's complaint, and one jeer of equal discretion and taste.

"First, he alleged that Mr Fielden had refused to answer some necessary inquiries. This was false. Mr Fielden had offered his books for information.

"Next, the Chancellor of the Exchequer discovered that it was Mr Fielden's own fault if he had suffered any injustice, for that he should have required to be assessed by special commissioners if he apprehended any hostile

treatment from the ordinary board. But this, as Mr Fielden remarked, was no remedy for the past, his goods having been seized and sold even before his appeal was concluded against the tax so unjustly assessed.

"And how wonderfully cool is Mr Goulburn's blame of Mr Fielden for having been unfairly dealt with by the ordinary commissioners. Suppose a public man were to make out a strong case of prejudice and wilful injustice against the judges of the Queen's Bench, what would be thought of a minister's reply that it was the complainant's own fault, for if he knew that the judges of that court were not friendly to him, he ought to have carried his cause into the Common Pleas? The Chancellor of the Exchequer assumes that the acting commissioners had committed the injustice, and seems not a jot the less satisfied with them, nor to feel that it proves them in any way unfit for their trust. Probably he is thankful that the Exchequer has a board not over nice, to bring grist to the mill by hook or by crook."

From a short conversation upon the subject of New Zealand, which took place in the House of Commons on the same evening, it seems that the New Zealand Company and the Colonial Office are in a fair way, at length, of coming to terms. Thursday evening brought up another discussion on the Brazil Slave Trade bill—Friday was given to the affairs of Greece—and, on Monday, the dismissal of Mr Wray, solicitor to the Board of Ordnance, who figured in the affair of Bonham and Boldero, had his character torn to pieces by attack and defence, on a motion of Mr Hawes, chairman of the select committee who brought to light the dabbling of government officials in railway schemes. The business of the House of Lords has been of an exclusively routine character.

POLITICAL MORALITY OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES.

THERE is a kind of honesty even in dishonesty. Vice is, at times, so unconscious of its own deformities, so dead to shame, as to show itself to the world stark naked—without one single rag of pretence to hide its native ugliness. 'Tis better, perhaps, for society when it is so—and, doubtless, society has an eye to ultimate consequences, as well as a liking for sincerity under any semblance, in the preference it gives to the bold villain over the sneaking thief. When evil tendencies break out into a sore, we are content to endure its loath-someness in hope of a speedier cure—increase of pain, and excitement of disgust, do not avail to make us regret the correspondence between outward appearances and inward unsoundness. The mischief which lurks unseen, experience has taught us, is most to be dreaded. Where men are corrupt it is, on the whole, an advantage that they show themselves to be such. The selfishness which throws off the mask, like the putridity of death, reminds us, by its very offensiveness, of the danger of infection to the living. Old associations, once pleasant to our souls, are broken through—and we ask a plot of earth, that we may bury our dead out of our sight.

For some years past, the middle-class constituencies of the empire have been suspected of making their exclusive privileges of citizenship a source of illegitimate gain. 'Twas not, indeed, very generally laid to their charge that they had fallen into the grossness of ancient immoralities, or that, like our freemen, they might be had in the market at so much a-head. A very superficial acquaintance with the philosophy of human nature might have led us to anticipate, that political corruption, whenever it should taint the mass of electors created by the Reform bill, would appear in a somewhat milder type than formerly. Bribery, for some time past, has rather pervaded the class as an invisible humour than shown itself in unsightly blotsches. It has assumed any shape rather than its own. Sometimes it has veiled itself in a professed anxiety for measures specially calculated to promote middle-class interests. Then, again, it has courted votes under cover of an aristocratic name and connexions. Close relationship of a candidate to the "ins," and, consequently, some command of patronage, has, in some instances, done the work of persuasion better than gold—while, in others, local eminence, or splendid wealth, has gilded and made current political worthlessness. All this was felt rather than seen—strongly suspected, but not formally proved—a malaria, the presence and power of which could only be conjectured from the results.

This state of things is drawing to a close. Constituencies now ask bribes as such—name their price, and glory in their success. "Give us the candidate," say they, "no matter what his politics, who, in return for our support, will promote 'local interests.' Ship-building will bring us money—docks will increase our wealth—a railroad will bring us larger profits. He who will give us these shall have our votes." Here, at length, we have corruption as bald as the palm of your hand. Talk of venal freemen after this! Why, Sudbury practices smacked of purity in comparison of this collective Mammon-worship.

The theory of the British constitution, according to the authority of our legislators, supposes every subject of the realm either directly or virtually represented. Members of parliament are chosen by limited constituencies, but not for them, exclusively or even mainly. Their service is due to

the empire. Their votes make laws, not merely for those who return them, but for millions who never had a voice in their election. Upon their wisdom or their folly the destinies of the country turn. What they do, in their legislative capacity, touches all interests, and affects the fortunes of every individual. And if it be a political crime of deepest dye, for a single elector to merge his responsibility in his selfishness, and turn that into a source of private gain which was committed to him in trust for the public welfare, what language can adequately denounce the collective and organised treachery, which offers a place in the legislature to the highest bidder, and says to the candidate soliciting its suffrage—"Pay us our price in 'local interests,' and make what laws you please to bind our fellow-subjects. We seek not their welfare, but our own. Our care is for ourselves, not them."

This is precisely, and without the smallest exaggeration, the form of political corruption which Colonel Thompson is encountering at Sunderland. Mr Hudson, the selected candidate of the tory section of electors in that borough, a fortunate speculator suddenly elevated to the highest pinnacle of wealth, professing political opinions of a certain hue, but of an indefinite form, avowing, as his main inducement for becoming a legislator, an ambition "to crown all" his other successes, is introduced to the notice, and commended to the earnest support, of his friends, as a man rich enough and powerful enough to further "local interests"—in other words, to give to Sunderland a bribe worth accepting. The vulgar insolence of this is amongst the most revolting exhibitions it has been our lot to witness, and stands out as marked a contrast as the mind of man can imagine to the tone characterising the speeches and proceedings of Colonel Thompson's supporters. The first are asking what they can *get* for themselves—the last, what they can *give* to their country. These are selling themselves to a representative—those are buying a representative by self-sacrifice. The one are content to be themselves slaves—the others are labouring to make a nation free.

"Look here, upon this picture, and on this."

And let every man who values political morality breathe out a prayer for the triumph of patriotism over reckless and unblushing selfishness!

Until we are pelted from off the ground by hard facts, we shall make bold to take up with the belief, that the infamous bargain proposed, on Mr Hudson's behalf, to the electors of Sunderland, will be repudiated by all that is morally respectable amongst the conservatives of that borough, with every mark of indignant scorn. If there be in them any intelligence, any integrity of character, any dispositions more elevated than those which sway the lowest potwalloper in existence, they will refuse with loathing to set their seal to the agreement drawn up in their name, and to deliver it over to the country as their act and deed. Their political principles will forbid their voting for Colonel Thompson—their common honesty, for Mr Hudson. Or if, spite of all their convictions, they consent to postpone national to local interests, and to make their votes representative, not of their judgment, but of their sordid passions for gain, let them cease thenceforth and for ever to inveigh against the vices of "the lower orders," and admit, that, in reference to impurity of motive, it is impossible to find a class below par with themselves.

We will not do the Sunderland electors the wrong of anticipating their return to parliament of the "railway Napoleon." Supposing, however, the contest to have this disgraceful issue, we ask, and ask with emphasis, of every upright man of every party, whether it will not indicate the time to have come, to grapple manfully with the evil which threatens ruin to our empire, and to sweep away corruption by extending the franchise to the limits demanded alike by reason, equity, and religion. If the rule of citizenship is henceforth to be "Get what you can—and leave legislation to shift for itself," every good man may well sigh for an irruption of democracy. And to this we are fast driving. Proceedings like those at Sunderland are not soon to be forgotten. And should Colonel Thompson, contrary to our most sanguine expectations, be rejected for Mr Hudson, our consolation is this—that the political morality of our existing constituencies will be appreciated by the people at large, and that the very excess of baseness which the event would exhibit, will create a revulsion of feeling in favour of complete organic reform.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

THE independent republic of Texas has consented to become annexed to the United States of America. The thing may now be regarded and spoken of as accomplished. Let us look at it manfully, and in the light of common sense.

Texas constituted a very important province of Mexico, between which and the southernmost states of America it lies. A vast tract of fertile country, scantily peopled, and the resources of which its inhabitants could not develop, invited the enterprise of American settlers, who are well known to be quite as unscrupulous about the

niceties of morality as settlers usually are. These immigrants, growing numerous and impatient of the nominal rule of Mexico, which prohibited slavery, instigated revolt, proclaimed the state independent, and managed, by some dexterity or other, to obtain recognition from France and Great Britain. The slave-holding states of America longed to entice Texas, their neighbour, into the Union. All kinds of diplomacy have been employed, until at length Texas gives an unreluctant consent to the proposal, and henceforth merges her independence in her confederation.

The motive for all this is on the surface, and it is only in official documents that it is deemed necessary to conceal it. The Southern states wanted a new market for their slaves, which are becoming too numerous for either safety or profit. Texas, annexed to America, opens a new and wide field for slave labour. The certainty of annexation raised the price of slaves by one half as soon as it was known. Here, then, we have a base object pursued by base means. Tyranny has been all along the end in view—duplicity and perfidy the means employed.

All statesmen, republican and monarchical, seem to adopt, without hesitation, a system of lax morality. The short story we have told above is anything but a novel one in the history of nations. Our indignation need scarcely travel across the Atlantic for political profligacy upon which to expend itself. The annexation of Texas with the United States, whilst it awakens our anger, may remind us of the annexation of Scinde to British India in our own times, and the union of Ireland with Great Britain, at the commencement of the present century. The one could not be accomplished for viler purposes, or by fouler arts, than were the others. It would be well if, before we pull out the mote from our brother's eye, we should take the beam out of our own eye.

After all, the annexation of Texas will, we confidently hope, disappoint the expectations, both of the promoters and opponents of the measure. It may, and we have no doubt it will, give an immediate and temporary impulse to slavery, as one of the "domestic institutions" of America—but that impulse will be followed by a proportionate re-action. Ten years ago, the tidings which came from America by the last packet, might well have reduced the philanthropist to despair. At the present day, the cause of humanity is too strong to be more than momentarily checked by the obstacle thrown in its path. President Polk and his associates may enjoy a passing triumph. But what if they are laying mines under their own citadel? The northern states of America comprehend the bulk of transatlantic intelligence, worth, and power. They have been cozened out of political preponderance by artifice. What if they should demand a re-modelling of the Union—or rather a division of it into separate parts? They will not always consent to be humbled by slave-drivers. Let the southern states beware! The triumphs of oppression are among the surest precursors of its downfall.

CHEAP POSTAGE IN AMERICA.—The United States government has adopted a reduced and uniform system of postage. The rates are, for any letter under half an ounce in weight going less than 300 miles, 5 cents (2½d.); above half an ounce, 10 cents; above 300 miles, the cost is doubled. The weight allowed to be carried is as much as 3lbs. In New York they have adopted a postage label to represent the 5 cents: it bears a portrait of Washington, and is somewhat larger, but not so ingeniously engraved as those in use in this country.

A deputation from the London Missionary Society, consisting of Mr Robert Challis, chairman of the board of directors, Mr J. A. James, Dr Vaughan, Mr F. Smith, Mr William Howe, from Tahiti, and Mr Arthur Tidman, had an interview with the Earl of Aberdeen on Monday, at the Foreign office.

A NEW BRITISH SETTLEMENT is, it is said, about to be formed off the northern coast of Borneo, in the Indian archipelago. Laboan, a small adjacent island, midway between Singapore and the Philippines, with a fine and well-frequented harbour, inhabited by a friendly people, who are prepared to welcome us, and possessing extensive beds of coal, has been selected for settlement by Captain Bethune, R.N., who lately visited Borneo and its northern islands on a political mission, and found their chiefs anxious to secure the friendship and alliance of the British government.

THE CONDEMNED PIRATES AT EXETER.—We rejoice to find, from the answer given last night by Sir James Graham to Mr Christie, that the Home office has interposed to prevent the mischievous effects of Mr Baron Platt's wrongheadedness, and that the opinion of the fifteen judges is to be taken on the legal objection urged by the counsel for the prisoners on the late important trial at Exeter, and the sentence on the seven condemned men, who were to have been executed on Saturday next, has been respite. We understand that very strong representations upon the subject had been addressed to the government by the Spanish and Brazilian ministers;

and that Sir James Graham's interposition has probably saved this country, not only from the disgrace of a refusal of the full benefit of our rules for the administration of justice, in a case where the lives of seven foreigners are at stake, but also from the danger of rupture with Spain and with Brazil.—*Chron.*

PORTRAITS OF DISTINGUISHED MINISTERS.—We have received from Mr Hogarth, of the Haymarket, a series of his portraits of popular ministers, of various denominations, which, when complete, will form a valuable and handsome gallery. The peculiar feature of these portraits is, that they are in each case taken from life, and drawn directly on the stone, omitting the usual intermediate processes. This method, and the skill of the artist (M. Baugniet), have, in most of the portraits before us, ensured an admirable likeness. The friends of Drs Pye Smith, Burder, R. W. Hamilton, Messrs Burnett and Sherman, may especially congratulate themselves upon the artist's success. We believe some of these are faultless. Mr Hogarth's collection is open to view daily, and is well worthy a visit.

WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

Monday commenced with a few light showers, but with an increase of temperature. The morning was rather gloomy, but at noon the sun broke forth with great splendour, and the mercury attained an elevation of seventy-one degrees in the shade. The day terminated with a glorious sunset and a clear atmosphere, the sky being slightly chequered with light fleecy clouds, beautifully arranged, giving indications of the advent of such weather as is now so highly desirable for the approaching harvest. Yesterday was a still finer day than the preceding—warm, genial, and the precursor, we hope, of fine and settled weather.

The weather continued extremely wet and boisterous up to Thursday evening. Friday was a fine day; but since then we have again a return of wet, and the temperature having throughout remained low, the growing crops have scarcely made any progress towards maturity. We have been at considerable pains to collect information respecting the actual state of the wheat plant; the reports on this subject are, however, so extremely conflicting as to render the task of estimating the injury sustained one of no ordinary difficulty, and we are forced to confess that we have hitherto been unable to arrive at a definite conclusion. The complaints of blight have rather increased than diminished, particularly from those counties where the crop is most forward. In many parts of Essex and Kent the mischief likely to result from this cause is too apparent to be longer questioned, and we fear, that as the plant progresses to maturity in the more backward districts, similar defects in the ear will be found to exist. From the manner in which the ears are affected, it is evident that the injury was done by the cold wet weather experienced during blooming time. We have examined a great many samples cut in different quarters, in most of which we have found the same defect, in a greater or less degree; some ears are deficient of four or five, others of six or eight, and, in some cases, as many as nine ears are wanting in one ear. Should it hereafter be discovered that this deficiency extends to all parts of the kingdom alike, it would, of course, make an immense difference in the quantity produced; and, taking into consideration the lateness of the season, and the consequent extra risk which the crop must still be exposed to, we much fear that the yield will, even under the most favourable circumstances which can now occur, fall short of an average. It has, therefore, become a matter approaching nearly to a certainty that an importation of foreign wheat will be required before the harvest of 1846. The extent of our necessities must still in a great measure depend on the character of the weather; but that sufficient will be gathered this autumn to supply the increased and increasing consumption during the next twelve months is, unfortunately, from the inauspicious nature of the summer, to say the least, extremely improbable. Under the belief that the advance recently established in the value of wheat in this country will be maintained, and that rather an important fall will thereby be occasioned in the duty, a good many orders have already been transmitted to the Baltic ports for the purchase of the article, and increased arrivals of foreign may, therefore, be expected to reach our shores in September and October. Owing, however, to the scanty nature of the stocks of old wheat at most of the principal markets of continental Europe, the total quantity likely to be received cannot be very great; and, as the new crop will not be in a fit condition for shipment until spring, it is quite possible that it may be a difficult matter to secure the required quantity, if our necessities should, from a continuance of bad weather, become urgent. We sincerely trust that so great a misfortune may not befall the country; but it cannot be denied that unusual interest attaches to the result of the forthcoming harvest. The continuance of wet cold weather has naturally occasioned much excitement in the wheat trade; enhanced rates have been demanded and obtained, at all the principal provincial markets; at some places the advance has not exceeded 1s. to 2s., but at others it has amounted to 3s., and at some places to 4s. per quarter. The total rise from the lowest point, taking the kingdom collectively, may be estimated at 10s. per qr. at least; so important an advance must speedily affect the averages, and, from present appearances, a 16s. duty is by no means improbable.—*Mark Lane Express.*

SNOW IN JULY!—On Tuesday morning the surface of country between Bangor and Bethesda, for an extent of three miles at least, was covered with snow to the depth of three inches and upwards.—*Chester Chronicle.*

ROSS.—COMMENCEMENT OF HARVEST.—On Monday last we observed a fine field of barley, belonging to Mr Price, of Benhall, being reaped. The crop was remarkably heavy, and in excellent condition.—*Hereford Times.*

It is now certain that we shall have a late harvest, even if it should prove a good one; and, whilst the

weather continues in its present state, a frequent falling of rain, and a low temperature for the season, some degree of apprehension must exist regarding the crops. For the maturing of the wheat bright and warm weather is required. It has been stated, in some letters submitted to us, that that grain can scarcely reach an average, allowing for the partial injury already suffered, and for the casualties that generally attend late harvest. But regarding oats, barley, potatoes, and green crops, all accounts represent them as most luxuriant and abundant. If the weather should prove favourable, taking all kinds of produce into account, we are likely to have a very abundant harvest.—*Dublin Mercantile Advertiser*.

SCOTLAND.—The weather has been exceedingly variable since our last, and still remains cold and unsettled. A great quantity of rain has fallen, so that great fears are entertained for the safety of the harvest. Beyond doubt it will be a late one.—*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

ELOPEMENT OF RUNAWAY NEGROES FROM MARYLAND.—The number of slaves who entered into the combination to escape is stated at one hundred or more. They came from three counties in Maryland—Prince George's, Charles, and St. Mary. They were led by a resolute negro, and were all armed with bludgeons and clubs. They crossed the eastern branch bridge on their way through Montgomery and to Pennsylvania. The movement of so large a body of men spread consternation among the people. This alarm reached Washington, where Colonel Henderson had the marines at the garrison and the navy yard under arms all the night of the 7th, and arms were given out to members of the Anacostia Fire Company, who volunteered their services to give chase to the coloured fugitives. The *Washington Union* subsequently adds—"We learn that a gang of thirty-eight of these negroes was discovered on the Frederick road, about a fourth of a mile beyond Rockville. The negroes left the turnpike, striking into the woods, and were followed closely by a Captain Jackson and six men, who, with the rest of the citizens, were all mounted. Captain Jackson and his companions soon reached them, and called on them to surrender, which they refused to do, and, closing their ranks, commenced snapping pistols, with which many of them were armed, at their pursuers. Finding that their arms could not be discharged, they commenced an assault with stones and bludgeons, when Jackson fired, and wounded one slightly. The whole body then retreated to a swamp on the other side of the field. Soon afterwards the main body of the citizens joined their companions, and, charging into the swamp, fired a volley on the runaways, which wounded eight—four seriously and one dangerously. Twenty-three immediately surrendered, and the rest made off. Those who could walk were secured with ropes, and marched into Rockville, and lodged in the county gaol. The wounded were conveyed there in a waggon. By last night eight others had been secured, and lodged in the gaol with their companions. The rest are probably retaken ere this. Some of the negroes say that there is another gang of thirty out, and others deny the statement."

The slavery question still agitates the various ecclesiastical bodies in the American republic. The General Association of Congregational Ministers, at a meeting a short time since, unanimously adopted a resolution affirming that slavery was utterly incompatible with the gospel, and that it was the consequent positive duty of all Christians to separate themselves from all responsible connexion with it. But it goes further, and declares that, in proportion as the influence of the Bible prevails, Christians will thus separate themselves. The General Conference of the Congregational Churches in Maine (says the *Emancipator*) has met the question of duty, created by the late pro-slavery proceedings of the Presbyterian General Assembly, with a Christian simplicity and directness of reproof and remonstrance, that makes the pettifogging of their brethren in Connecticut, and the timidity of those in Massachusetts, look exceedingly small. The anti-slavery party in same state have resolved on proposing General S. Tessenon, a stanch abolitionist, as their candidate for governor at the next election. The Presbyterian and Congregational ministers of Detroit, and the Northern Illinois Baptist Association, representing twenty-nine churches, in convention, have also denounced the continued existence of slavery in the most emphatic terms. In the *Boston Morning Chronicle* we find the following:—

"ANTI-SLAVERY PEACE PLEDGE."

"We, the undersigned, hereby pledge ourselves not to countenance or aid the United States government in any war which may be occasioned by the annexation of Texas, or in any other war, foreign or domestic, designed to strengthen or perpetuate slavery."

"Name. | Residence."

INDIA AND CHINA.—The overland mail brings intelligence from Bombay to the 20th June; but the Indian advices are destitute of novelty, all having been anticipated by the last Calcutta mail. The latest date from China is the 6th May. The British troops had been withdrawn from Kolungsoo, in accordance with the terms of our treaty, on the 23rd March; and the Chinese had taken possession. A strange occurrence had taken place. An English merchant having built a vessel of seventy tons, gave the command of it to a Chinese named Fowqua, to enable him to levy a species of *black mail* on the native smuggling boats engaged in the opium trade. Suspicions were excited; Fowqua was seized by the Chinese authorities and tortured, and he denounced

a hundred persons as being implicated in the enterprise.

A NEW PRUSSIAN CONSTITUTION.—According to the *Weser Gazette*, several changes in the present legislative system are in contemplation, amongst others the formation of two chambers, the one to consist of forty nobles, eight Protestant bishops, seven Roman Catholic bishops, and of deputies from the Protestant and Roman Catholic cathedrals, and from the state universities; and the other of owners of estates and of the representatives of the burgesses and of the peasantry.

BELGIAN MINISTRY.—After a delay of several weeks the new Belgian Cabinet has been completed. Premier, M. Dechamps, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, now Minister of Public Works; Interior, M. Van de Weyer, the present ambassador in London; Public Works, M. D'Hoffschmidt; Finance, M. Malow, the present governor of Antwerp; Justice, M. D'Anethom; War, M. Dupont.

PACIFICATION OF ALGERIA!—The Algiers journals of the 20th ult. state, that the Marshal Governor would leave on the 23rd, for Dellys, with two battalions, to complete the pacification of the neighbouring country!

HEAT IN AMERICA.—By the last accounts from the United States the heat appears to have been intense. The 13th of July has already acquired the sobriquet of "the hot Sunday," the thermometer having reached 98 degrees, in the shade, at three p.m.

There has been a most destructive fire at Matanzas, Cuba, by which property to the amount of 800,000 dollars was destroyed.

DREADFUL STEAM-BOAT COLLISION.—Loss of 135 Lives.—A frightful steam-boat collision occurred in the Black sea on the 11th July. The Ottoman commercial steamer Iskudar was on its way from Constantinople to Trebizonde, and about forty miles north of the Bosphorus it met the steamer Medjrai Tidjaret, belonging to the same firm. Both were full of goods and passengers, both going at full speed. According to rule, Mr Dobbins, the commander of the Iskudar, put his helm to port; but the master of the other steamer, Mr Lambert, put his helm to starboard; and the vessels came together with a fearful shock. Mr Dobbins proposed that they should remain in company, to see which would sink or swim; but Mr Lambert, thinking more lightly of the accident, went on. "The vessels parted; the Medjrai Tidjaret dropped about a mile astern, and in the course of less than a quarter of an hour, it was found that she was sinking rapidly. The Scutari, which had got but slight damage, then went to her help; but it was too late. Very few, comparatively, could be saved. The boats of the devoted vessel were so overcrowded by those who strove, with frantic eagerness, to make their escape, that they sank at once. About seventy, however, by swimming, and by clinging to spars, reached the Scutari, where they clustered round the paddle boxes till they were taken in. Captain Lambert and an engineer were picked up by a boat of the Scutari. All the rest, one hundred and thirty-five souls, perished. Their agony was a short one, but it was terrific. As the Scutari approached the wreck she heeled over. The people on the deck, like wild maniacs, were visible in the moonlight; and as the sea sucked her down—as the vortex of waters she formed in sinking almost made the Scutari spin round with the motion, there rose a scream of utter horror—a last scream!—which those who heard will never forget. But more impressive still was the passive resignation of the Turks; they sat motionless, muttering their prayers; neither by cry nor gesture did they manifest any consternation! From the first shock to the sinking of the vessel not more than half-an-hour elapsed. The captains of the two vessels, you will see by their names, were English; the engineers were also English. Upon English navigation and engineers, therefore, this terrible accident must bring much discredit in this part of the world. There has been a court of inquiry held upon the matter, but the Turks who formed the court were so utterly ignorant of nautical affairs, that nothing like a clear explanation was elicited."

THE ROYAL CONTINENTAL EXCURSION.—A Frankfort letter states that "twenty young students of the cadet establishment at Bonsberg, have been selected to act as pages during the visit of the Queen of England at Stolzenfels and Coblenz. The preparations for her Majesty's reception continue on the grandest scale. Numerous English families have already arrived here. The most noted singers and musicians of Europe are shortly expected. The Archduke Frederick of Austria has been commissioned by the Emperor to congratulate the Queen of England on her arrival in Germany." A German journal states that the King of Prussia, in order to do honour to the visit of Queen Victoria on the banks of the Rhine, has ordered M. Meyerbeer to get up a number of concerts and musical festivals. The great maestro has engaged MM. Liszt, Vieuxtemps, Mendelssohn, Pauline, Garcia, Jenny Lind, and a number of other musical personages. The Castle of Stolzenfels, where the sovereigns meet, is about half a league from Coblenz. By private letters from Cologne, we learn that her Majesty and Prince Albert are expected to arrive at Stolzenfels on the 15th of August, and not on the 8th, as at first anticipated. Her Majesty remains five days at that royal residence, and then proceeds, by Wurzburg and Bamberg, to Coburg, where, as we have before stated, the Palace Rosenau has been prepared for her Majesty's reception. It was in that royal abode Prince Albert was born.

The students of Cologne, in imitation of those of several German universities, have abolished dueling, and replaced it by a tribunal of honour, whose decisions are to be without appeal. They, moreover, resolved to give a legal existence to that tribunal, and had called on the government to authorise it.

THE WRECK OF THE JOHN HENDRICK, DUTCH EAST INDIAMAN.—We are happy to state that the eleven men, left by Captain R. W. Heckelbury, of the Dutch East Indiaman, the John Hendrick, on the 30th of May last, upon a rock near the Line, as was reported in the *Nonconformist*, were rescued from their frightful situation, after having been on the rock fifteen days, by Captain Snell, of the merchant-ship Eliza, of Liverpool, and have arrived in London. It will be recollected that, upon the captain with seven of the crew being taken off, the vessel, on board of which they were received, was for several days prevented, by violent storm and adverse winds, from making head toward the rock, and was carried some hundreds of miles away from it, when, it being supposed by the captain that the poor fellows would be starved to death, as there appeared to be no means of obtaining food, they were left to their fate. Fortunately, however, after enduring the most dreadful sufferings and privations, the Eliza hove in sight, and prevented that calamity which was looked for by the captain of the John Hendrick.

THE WAR IN THE CAUCASUS.—For the second time during the present campaign of the Russians against the Circassians, under the command of Count Voronoff, the former have gained a victory over the latter.

L'Univers (Paris paper) publishes a letter from Vienna, dated the 24th ult., which states that Prince Metternich proposed, in the interview he is to have with the King of Prussia at Johannisberg, to dissuade his Majesty from his intention to give to his subjects a constitution.

THE POPE ON RAILWAYS.—The *Frankfort Journal* makes the following odd announcement, under date of the 17th of July, from Rome:—"The Pope has declared, once for all, that he will not allow railways to be established in the Pontifical States, for it would be dangerous to allow them in a country where there exists such political agitation."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

CITY STEAM-BOAT COMPANY.—A new fleet of Thames steamers commenced plying upon the river on Wednesday, and the occasion was celebrated by a dinner at the Tivoli gardens, Battersea, at which the directors and principal shareholders in the company were present.

MR WALLBRIDGE'S SEQUENTIAL SYSTEM.—Under this name a gentleman has for some years past been endeavouring to introduce a plan of musical notation more consistent than the one at present in use. The principle is that of treating every sound as having an absolute value, instead of making one an accident of another, as is at present the case with what we call the flats and sharps. Every key, or sequence, according to Mr Wallbridge (and to truth), is just as natural as that of C major, and hence it is absurd to call the seventh in that key (B) a natural, and the seventh (F) in G a sharp, although it is certainly a semitone higher than the note which we call F natural. The plan is to give every note an independent designation, so that the relations at present assumed may no longer be expressed. Of the correctness of his principle there cannot be a doubt, but the difficulty will consist in bringing it into practice, as it not only requires a new construction in the finger-board of the piano, but also, if introduced, would render useless all the music printed under the old system. Mr Wallbridge has invented pianos adapted for his purpose, and has for some time advocated his doctrine in books, written with much force and clearness, the plan being further developed as successive works have appeared. He has now had recourse to the lecture room as a means of diffusing his notions, and his series began on Tuesday at Mortimer street, Cavendish square. There are other points in the system besides the one we have touched on, but that may be considered the leading one.

EXTRAORDINARY WILL CASE.—One of the most prolonged arguments with respect to the will of a deceased wealthy baronet has lately been in progress. Sir H. Jenner Fust has already heard three citizens out of six engaged in the suit. The deceased was Sir G. R. de Apreece, Bart, and though most wealthy it appears that he lived in a style infinitely inferior to the position in which such wealth placed him. He had large landed property in Essex, in Hampshire, and other counties. His freehold property is worth from £180,000 to £190,000, and he left personal estate of something short of £25,000. From the pleas it appears that the baronet, from his youth upwards, was exceedingly eccentric. The will in dispute, and which is opposed by a sister (Mrs Peacock), was executed at a fishmonger's shop in the neighbourhood of Fleet street, the parties who were witnesses to it being entire strangers. The document was duly attested, but it gave the property, real and personal, to St George's hospital, excepting two legacies to the executors. The rental of the estates amounted to £7,800 a-year. In bar of the validity of the will insanity is alleged. The number of witnesses examined, and the documentary evidence brought forward, is unparalleled, not less than seventy-four witnesses having been produced and examined upon one plea. If reliance is to be placed upon the immense mass of letters which have been brought forward in support of the will, undoubtedly St George's hospital will reap a rich harvest by the distribution. But the deceased baronet, it appears, for years contemplated self-destruction, and ultimately died by his own hand. He carefully collected for years what he called a "fact book," in which were pasted all the accounts of murders, suicides, and dreadful accidents. From the proof that monomania upon such subjects existed in the testa-

tor's mind, the sister of the deceased has proceeded to oppose the will. At the time of his death, Sir G. R. de Apreece was fifty-one years of age, the will being executed some years before. Among the arguments brought forward to prove insanity, were a constant fluctuation of intention, a degree of wilfulness in character, and irritable temperament, wholly inconsistent with what may be considered a sound state of mind, eccentricities the most remarkable, and incoherency of conduct. At meals he would swear at the cook and the servants for viands prepared for him, and subsequently eat them. On one occasion he threw a hare on the fire, took it off again, forced the leg down the servant's back, saying it was a mouse. A vast variety of similar eccentricities were brought forward. But on the other side the documentary evidence is produced to show capacity. The brother of the deceased is married to the widow of Sir H. Davy, and from various communications produced sanity is sought to be proved. It will be perceived from this brief outline of the case that the family of the testator is entirely deprived of all interest in this immense property, and which is left, with the exceptions named, to an hospital with which he was very little acquainted. This will be one of the most strongly contested will causes ever brought forward in the Prerogative court. That it will be appealed against, whichever way the learned judge decides, is pretty certain. It will afford nearly as rich a harvest for the legal profession as that gleaned out of the estate of Mr James Wood, the banker of Gloucester.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUNG FEMALES.—On Tuesday last, the annual meeting of this society was held at the asylum, Tottenham. Mr George Greaves, M.A., incumbent of Christ church, Herne bay, and one of the vice-patrons, took the chair at 12 o'clock. The report, which was read by the secretary, detailed the proceedings of the society for the past year: from which it appeared that the income of the society had increased upon the previous year nearly £200, the income for the year being upwards of £2,000; that the committee had been actively engaged in suppressing some infamous houses in various parts of the metropolis; and that, during the year, 50 inmates under the age of fifteen had been sheltered and instructed in domestic and other duties, within the walls of the asylum. The resolutions were sustained by Mr G. Glanville, Mr Soames, Mr Justins, &c. Officers for the year were then appointed, and after the usual business had been transacted, the meeting separated.

CURIOUS MISHAP.—On Saturday morning, shortly before 9 o'clock, a wedding party, consisting of six persons, embarked on board one of the new Citizen steamers at the Adelphi Pier, Strand, for the purpose of being conveyed to Battersea, where it had been arranged that two of the party should be united in the holy bands of matrimony. While the vessel was waiting alongside the pier for other passengers, the Waterman steamer, No. 2, Captain Newton, arrived at the same pier on his way down, for the purpose of receiving a freight, and while the bridegroom, with a forgetfulness towards the object of his affections not very common before marriage, was looking at the suspension-bridge, and other objects of the river, the bride strayed into the Waterman, and immediately afterwards the two steamers parted company, the Citizen steaming away for Battersea without the bride, while the Waterman was dashing away towards Greenwich with the lady. The party on board the Citizen soon missed the bride, and search was made for her from stem to stern, and in the cabins, and her name was called, but they found her not. The bridegroom and his friends for some time thought that the bride was lurking in some secret place, and that, like the heroine in the "Misletoe Bough" she wished her affianced lord to find her place of concealment, and he then "sought her above and sought her below," and after exploring every nook and cranny of the vessel, including the engine-room, he began to be most dreadfully alarmed, and he communicated his fears to his friends, who were no less astounded at the disappearance of the bride. On arriving at the Windmill Pier, at Nine Elms, they left Citizen A and embarked on board Citizen B, in which they returned to the Adelphi-pier, and upon their arrival there anxiously inquired after the bride, but no one could give them any information respecting her. While they were deliberating on the best course to pursue, and some of the party were suggesting the expediency of offering a reward for the recovery of the body of the young lady, who they concluded had fallen overboard and been drowned, the Waterman steamer, No. 10, arrived with the bride, who had not found out her mistake until she passed Blackfriars-bridge. Mutual explanations and salutes were exchanged, their sorrow was soon turned into joy, and Citizen C coming up, the wedding party again embarked, and they arrived at Battersea in time to be married.

HOW TO GAIN CUSTOM.—On Saturday the following placard appeared on a baker's shop in Great Wild-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields:—"Take notice—This shop will be opened at 6 o'clock this evening, when to the first female customer will be given a peck loaf, 3d., and a glass of gin; to the second, half a peck, 2d., and a glass of gin; to the third, a 4lb. loaf and a glass of gin; and to every purchaser of a 4lb. loaf, a penny, or a glass of gin." In consequence of this announcement, at 6 o'clock a great crowd of women had assembled, and the police had some difficulty in keeping order, so great was their anxiety to obtain the prizes, and several contests took place amongst them.

BRIG BLOWN OVER AND SUNK.—On Friday morning the brig Flirt was going down the river with reefed topsails and foresail set, when she was exposed in Woolwich reach to a sudden squall of wind and

rain from the southwest, and being very light and with no ballast on board, was blown over on her larboard side and began to fill. The master of the vessel and his crew got on to the rigging, and thence to the hull. The brig was fast going down in deep water, when Mr Leonard, an inspector of Thames police, and his boat's crew, came up and rescued the captain and crew, and put them on board the Waterman steam-boat. A warp was then run out from the steamer, and the Flirt was towed into shallow water, and she settled down instantly afterwards. When the tide ebbed, the Flirt was aground, and the water was pumped out of her, and upon the return of the tide she was righted, and towed back to Shadwell for repairs.

PROVINCIAL.

THE SUNDERLAND ELECTION.

THE issue of the new writ for this borough is yet delayed, and both parties are still kept in a state of great excitement. The League continue their evening meetings in the theatre and Athenaeum. Colonel Thompson, Mr Bright, M.P., and Mr Hudson, as well as minor orators, speak every night, and their speeches are reported and published. A reward of £100 has been offered by the League for evidence of bribery, or of attempted bribery. The free traders are not spending a penny in corruption. They "will not stand a pint." Almost their sole item of expenditure is printing. Their speeches are printed from day to day. Of printing ink, therefore, there is a considerable consumption; but of "drink," nil. For this they have the thanks and respect of all well-judging men. "Socialism" has been imputed, without the slightest foundation, to Colonel Thompson; and, curiously enough, the charge comes from men whose latitudinarian leaders scout all principle as immaterial, and profess not to have known or cared what creed (if any) their candidate professed! It is a noteworthy fact, that, whereas in 1841 the corn-law repealers could not obtain a patient hearing in Sunderland, they are now warmly applauded by the working classes. We give below, says the *Gateshead Observer*, our latest communication from Sunderland:—

Every day the canvass has been actively prosecuted by both parties; the result of which, each say, has been most gratifying. The struggle, it is generally expected, will be a severe one; but Colonel Thompson's friends entertain no doubt of success. The liberals who have held aloof are rapidly coming in; and the banner of "The United Reformers," which is now displayed from one of the windows of Colonel Thompson's committee room, represents a gratifying reality. The cunning and assiduous efforts of the Tories to "divide and conquer," are failing; and, notwithstanding their confident boasting, there are certain indications that they have serious reasons for apprehending their "Napoleon" will find Sunderland to be his Waterloo. Wherever the Colonel has gone on his canvass, he has been received with the greatest enthusiasm by the populace, as well as favourably by the electors generally. His opponent has not been so fortunate. We are very sorry to say, that at Monkwearmouth (the Black North), he had great difficulty in escaping personal violence; and generally he has been sore annoyed at the broad hints he has received that he is an unwelcome guest. The press has poured forth thousands of placards in every form, and on all possible points connected with the contest.

"It is gratifying to observe," continues that journal, "the untiring spirit of large multitudes. We have known three meetings in an evening obtain an abundance of hearers. We are sanguine—we feel confident that the Colonel has a glorious prospect before him. We are satisfied a majority of the electors are in his favour. The number of promises he has received is very large. And we have every reason to suppose that the excellent memorial of the non-electors to the electors (signed by 5000 in two days) will have a very powerful influence. On the whole, therefore, we confidently anticipate the return of Colonel Thompson."

On Friday, Mr S. Warren, of the Northern circuit bar (to balance the influence of the League!) made an eloquent and powerful address to the tory electors. Mr Hudson then spoke for himself. He said he was the son of an honest farmer, the youngest of a large family, and was left an orphan at six years of age. He repelled an insinuation which he said had been thrown out by Mr Bright, that he seldom attended a place of religious worship; an insinuation unworthy of the garb he wore, and inconsistent with that Christian charity he professed to practice. But, who was Mr Bright? and what were his claims to public notice and regard? He came down here as the hired agent and paid lecturer (!!!) of the anti-corn-law League—a low fraternity of political mendicants, who sought to overawe the independent constituencies of England.

The *Chronicle* correspondent says:—"We are to have a large importation of the inhabitants of York on the day of nomination: but Mr Hudson will not be able to bring a sufficient number to gain him the show of hands, unless he have the greatest monster train which has ever yet travelled on a railway. A hand-bill, cautioning the electors against betting on the result of the contest, has been issued by Colonel Thompson's committee, as strangers are going about, (who are supposed to be in the tory interest), endeavouring to lay wagers with voters, that they may hereafter deprive them of their votes."

At the League meeting, on Saturday night, Colonel Thompson stated, that a letter had been that day received from Earl Grey, informing the gentleman to whom it was addressed, that his lordship had now taken the proper steps for his immediate call to the House of Lords, and that a writ for a new election will be speedily issued. This announcement was received with great cheering, for the electors in the

Colonel's interest are anxious to be at work; the delay has, however, strengthened their interest, by giving time for the removal of the irritation and bad feeling to which the introduction of a second candidate had unfortunately given rise.

We are happy to hear, from our correspondence and other private sources of information, that the prospects of the gallant Colonel improve daily. Our own correspondent, writing on Monday evening, says:—"You will be glad to learn, that we now consider Colonel Thompson's return *SAFE*. Nearly all the leading whigs have come in. The struggle will, however, be a severe one."

HOW LONG WILL THE CORN LAWS LAST?—At a meeting of the Wilts Agricultural Association the other day, Mr Sotheron, one of the monopolist county members, thus addressed his audience:—

It was impossible that they should shut their eyes to the fact that *in a few years*—it was even now visible in the horizon—they were under the great risk of having the corn laws entirely put an end to [hear, hear]. But this he would say, that, whenever that change should take place, it could not be a single measure [hear]. No government could bring forward such a proposition without adding to it a measure for the adjustment of the burdens of the agriculturists [hear, hear]. Therefore he was for the landlord, on his part, to say, if such a step should be taken, "My rent shall be adjusted according to the circumstances of the tenant," and for the tenant to say to the labourer—"It is from my produce that I must pay you your wages, and, if the price of that produce is lowered, you cannot be surprised, painful though it will be to me, if your wages are lowered also." This ought to be done before any alteration such as he had alluded to was made.

A REAL FRIEND TO THE RAILWAY LABOURER.—At the dinner which took place last week, in celebration of the opening of the whole railway line to Norwich, the Bishop of Norwich thus described the praiseworthy efforts to promote the best interests of the railway labourers, or "navigators," by Mr Peto, one of the contractors engaged in constructing that railroad:—

He was a Catholic Christian [loud cheers], and, as such, would hold it as a dereliction of his duty if he did not express his approbation, respect, and regard, for the exertions used for the moral benefit of the railway labourers by Mr Peto [hear, hear]. He was always most anxious to see good done, and rejoiced to see it from whatever quarter it came, and he would not withhold his expressions of satisfaction at the good done by Mr Peto. All down the line he had met with his agents, and had found them not merely taking down names, giving directions and instructions, but also giving to the men religious books, providing schools for the education of themselves and their children [loud cheers], and thus showing them that education can civilise the mind, reform the habits, and elevate the understanding. And what was the result? Just such as Mr Peto's exertions deserved and were sure to gain. The gin-shops were left deserted and the schools were full [cheers]. Who was there who would throw a damp upon the means, even the humblest, of education, come whence it may. Mr Peto was a Dissenter, and he (his lordship) envied the sect to which belonged the possession of such a man, and he would gladly purchase him at his own price—at whatever expense, the church would be a gainer, could he but be brought within her pale. God grant that, having lived a Dissenter, he might see the propriety and blessing of dying in the bosom of the established church [loud cheers].

ABOLITION OF THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH.—An influential meeting of the inhabitants of Reading, was held in the New hall, to take the above subject into consideration, on Monday last. The large hall was crowded to excess, and many were unable to gain admittance. The chair was taken by Edward Vines, Esq., under-sheriff of the county, who opened the proceedings at some length, in expressing his views on the question, as being decidedly opposed to the punishment of death. The Rev. J. Statham, in an able speech, moved,

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, capital punishments are in every case inexpedient and ineffectual, and are directly opposed to the spirit and genius of the gospel, and that this meeting is deeply concerned for their total and speedy abolition."

The motion was seconded by Mr Edward Carroll, a member of the Society of Friends, and carried without a single dissentient. Lord Nugent then came forward amid loud cheers, and moved a petition to the Queen in accordance with the terms of the motion previously agreed to, the prayer of which he supported with an eloquent appeal, which characterised the brilliant speech of his lordship at the meeting recently held at Aylesbury for pronouncing the same object. Mr E. Carroll referred to a similar meeting lately held in Cork, where the apostle of temperance, Father Mathew, concluded a beautiful address by saying:—"I have been about thirty years in the ministry, and have never yet discovered that the Founder of Christianity has delegated to man any right to take away the life of his fellow-man." Mr Samuel Bowley, of Gloucester, in a forcible speech, remarked, that if the punishment of death were so needful, and in accordance with Christianity, the hangman should be a religious person, and not, as is often the case, a poor drunken creature, whose conduct made him the jest of the spectators. The speaker concluded by saying, he would rather have the satisfaction of saving the life of one human being, than the laurels of the greatest warrior. Messrs Curwen, Statham, Legge, Perry, and Saunders, severally proposed resolutions, which were carried unanimously, and the meeting concluded at ten o'clock. The number of persons present was computed at 1,600, and the greatest order prevailed throughout. Petitions to the Queen and the parliament were unanimously adopted, and will go up numerously signed. This proved one of the most gratifying public meetings that has been held in Reading for years.—*Oxford Chronicle*.

"TRYING WHAT HANGING IS."—On Friday last, at Cotheridge, in this county, distressing cries were

heard by two females, named Mrs Clark and Miss Griffiths, and on the former immediately hastening to the spot from whence they proceeded, she was horror-struck to behold a boy hanging by his cravat to a beam in a colt cot. She instantly raised his legs, and supported him on her shoulder, while she sent her little boy, who had followed her, for a knife to cut him down. By this time Miss Griffiths had arrived, and assisted the former in extricating the lad from his perilous situation. Mrs Clark questioned him as to why he had attempted so shocking an act, when he hesitatingly replied, that he wanted to know what hanging was, and got up there, and could not get down again. He is about eleven or twelve years old, and was employed in the fields. Had they not found him when they did, he must have been dead in a very short time.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

HEREFORD CITY REPRESENTATION.—The nomination took place on Thursday morning; the Mayor, Wm Webb, Esq., in the chair. There was no opposition. Sir Robert Price, Bart., was proposed by Robert Biddulph Phillips, of Longworth, Esq., and seconded by Mr Alderman Rogers. The Town Hall was crowded with respectable citizens. The honourable baronet, on being declared duly elected, addressed the meeting at considerable length. After the election the new member was escorted through the principal streets of the city in an open carriage and four, attended by an immense number of friends, the whole preceded by a band, &c.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.—Another accident of a very serious character took place on the line of the London and Birmingham railway on Tuesday. It appears that the ten o'clock up train from Birmingham, and which is due at three o'clock at the Euston Grove terminus, proceeded at its usual speed up to the time of its arrival at Leyton. After passing the Leyton station, and between that place and Cheddington, the engine got out of "gear," or, in some measure, otherwise slightly deranged. The engine driver, Newton, perceiving this was the case, slackened the speed, and descended for the purpose of remedying the defect; and the engine was again put in motion that he might see if he had done so effectually. On attempting to ascend the engine whilst in progress, the unfortunate driver's foot slipped off one of the steps, and his right leg being caught by one of the wheels, caused him to fall, and the tender and carriages passed over the ankle and lower part of the calf, crushing it in a shocking manner. The train was stopped, and the poor fellow, having been placed in one of the carriages, was brought with all possible speed to the London terminus, where he was seen by Mr Porter, the surgeon to the company, and at once accompanied by that gentleman to University College hospital. His leg has been amputated, but he remains in a precarious state. On Saturday, Major-General Pasley, the government inspector-general of railways, instituted an investigation into all the circumstances connected with the alarming collision of Tuesday last. The inquiry elicited the fact, that the engine of the mail train ran into the luggage train obliquely, that the fog was at the time so thick as to render it impossible for Unsworth, the engine driver, to have seen the latter until within a few yards of it, but that the instant he did so he shut off the steam and reversed the engine. That although the red signal was hoisted at the Chalk Farm bridge, it was impossible the man at the tunnel could perceive it, and therefore it was the duty of the policeman at the bridge to run forward and cause the stoppage of the up-train, being aware, as he was, that the down luggage train was fifty minutes behind its regular time; the mail train, on the contrary, being fifteen minutes before its time. General Pasley was understood to express his opinion that there was considerable blame attributable to the signal man at the bridge, in not having taken more precaution than merely raising the red signal, but other matters which will be embodied in the gallant general's report to the Board of Trade did not transpire.

THE LATE ACCIDENT ON THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.—On Thursday afternoon, Major-general Pasley went to Tunbridge, to investigate the circumstances attending the late serious collision at the Penshurst station. The result of the inquiry was the expression of the General's conviction, that the accident had arisen from the improper act on the part of the head porter at Tunbridge, in sending the pilot-engine to overtake the train; yet he could not attribute any blame, as that step had been taken with the best intentions, namely, to prevent an accident. As regarded the conduct of the engine-driver, Walker, he was of opinion that he had not exercised that caution which he ought to have persevered in, well knowing that he was closely following in the wake of a train. Yet at the same time he was disposed to think that the driver must have laboured under some misconception as to what lights he was conveying. He further observed that the guard, Shelly, had failed in his duty in not obeying his instructions, not having seen that the tail signal lights were properly adjusted before the train left Tunbridge. Sir G. Hayter, and the two other sufferers known to be injured, are going on favourably.—On Wednesday afternoon Joseph Walker, the engine driver, was accused at Tunbridge court-house, before a county magistrate, of causing the disaster by his negligence. Captain Charlewood, R.N., of the Dover Company, prosecuted. The magistrate was of opinion that the disaster originated in mistake, and that the engine driver was not culpable: he discharged the complaint. Captain Charlewood, in answer to the Bench, said that the number of persons known to be injured was three: they were—Mr Haines, of Cheapside, compound fracture of the leg, near the ankle; the mother of a guard recently

killed upon the line, dislocation of the jaw; and a talented painter (a baronet), slight injury to the spine. There were a number of persons of both sexes bruised and otherwise injured; but he had been unable to learn their names, as they had gone to their respective houses on the night of the accident.

THE LATE ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.—Mr Creed, the secretary of the Company, has forwarded an official report on the accident which occurred on Monday week, to the Board of Trade. He gives a similar account of the cause of the disaster to that stated in our last number. He says, that "it did not appear" that more than two passengers were injured; Mr Dean, and a gentleman who had his face and head severely cut by the glass of a coupé in which he was seated. He invites attention to the following facts:—

1. That the mail train arrived at the Camden station fifteen minutes before its time.
2. That the goods-train, on the other hand, was fifty minutes later than its regular time of departure (owing to the unusual number of trucks which were to be conveyed).
3. That although the policeman at Chalk Farm bridge had turned on the red signal when the goods train began to move, there was so much fog that the driver of the train coming out of the tunnel could not well have seen the signal; and, consequently, that in not going forward to communicate with the policeman at the south end of the tunnel, according to the orders provided for this especial case, the policeman at the bridge failed in the performance of his duty.

On this report the *Examiner* pertinently remarks:—"Was the policeman, however, the only person to blame? Was no blame attaching to any one for the arrival of the mail train fifteen minutes before it was due, and for the delay of the goods-train fifty minutes after its appointed time of departure? The accident was owing to three circumstances combined—the premature arrival of one train, the delay of the other, and the negligence of the policeman—but yet only one person is found to blame."

ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY a second accident has taken place [the other was reported in our last number]. A labourer waked up from sleep in a dangerous place, was frightened, ran in the way of a train, and was killed.

A porter on the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway has been killed at the Glasgow terminus, by being jammed between two carriages while they were being moved. He was warned of his danger; but he did not get out of the way, having, it is said, been somewhat intoxicated at the time.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY has also furnished its complement of accidents. One of these took place between Romford and Brentwood on Friday week. Two engines, one at each end, were employed to propel a train: there was a concussion, and several persons were badly hurt. The cause of the accident was the breaking away of the last carriage. From some cause or other, the hindmost engine broke away the last carriage from the train, and afterwards ran into it, by which the injuries were caused.—A second accident took place near Hinham, on the Northern and Eastern Counties on Friday last. A passenger-train suddenly went off the line. The carriages were knocked together; but no one was hurt. The cause of the accident was the neglect of a man to adjust some "points."

ACCIDENTS ON THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—**DERBY**, July 29.—About seven o'clock last night a fatal accident occurred at the railway station here. George Redfern, a porter, was assisting to "shunt" a truck, when the catch on the turn-table by some means did not act, and the consequence was, the truck swung round much further than it ought to have done, and crushed the poor fellow to death.—Much excitement and alarm were also occasioned at the station by the non-arrival of the mail-train, which was due in Derby at twenty minutes to seven, but which did not make its appearance till after eight o'clock. It appeared that two mineral trains had come into collision at the Claycross tunnel, and occasioned each other much damage. A stoker, who jumped off when he saw that a collision was unavoidable, had one of his legs broken in two places.

ALARMING ACCIDENT NEAR COLCHESTER.—On Wednesday last, an accident occurred, owing to the viciousness of a horse, which it is surprising did not terminate in the loss of life or serious mutilation. Shortly after eleven in the forenoon, a party, consisting of the Rev. J. Stoughton, of Kensington, the Rev. — Lyon, of Union Street Chapel, Southwark, the Rev. Alexander Fraser, and Mr J. B. Harvey, of Colchester, with the child of the latter, a little boy aged five years, started in a four-wheel chaise from Colchester for Mersea. Mr. Stoughton being engaged to preach the anniversary sermon at West Mersea Chapel in the afternoon. At an early period of the journey, the horse, a very powerful animal, gave intimations that great caution was required on the part of the driver; and when about to descend Manwood Hill, by the side of Donyland Wood, his speed having been previously relaxed into nearly a walking pace, he commenced kicking and plunging in the most furious manner, and then dashed forward in a tremendous gallop. The sudden violence of the animal deprived Mr Harvey, the driver, of all command, and he was thrown from his seat and fell heavily upon the road. Mr Stoughton, his companion in front, almost at the same moment met with a similar fate, leaving Mr Fraser, Mr Lyon, and the child, in a state of utter helplessness upon the back seat, the horse pursuing his course at terrific speed down the steep hill. As the vehicle approached Manwood Bridge, a narrow, crooked, and dangerous place, at the bottom of the valley, nothing was anticipated by those who witnessed the occurrence, but a fatal collision and overthrow. It happened,

however, when the horse was within a few yards of the bridge, that the shafts both parted from the body, causing the chaise to whirl forcibly against some paling, by the roadside, and precipitating the three remaining occupants upon the ground, not one of them, happily, receiving any injury worth mentioning. The life of the child was preserved through Mr Fraser and Mr Lyon not losing their self-possession; for had they attempted to escape, or had the child been riding in front, he would no doubt have been dashed to pieces; Mr Lyon, however, kept him close within his knees, and in falling, maintained his hold, thus affording him protection. Mr Harvey received a contusion near the hip-bone, and an abrasion of the skin on each leg; Mr Stoughton met with a severe blow on the nose, which disabled him for the engagement he had undertaken, and his place was supplied by his more fortunate fellow-traveller, Mr Lyon. The cottagers living near the spot rendered every assistance in their power; and we are happy to state that the injuries inflicted were only such as to occasion temporary inconvenience to the parties. The horse, after his release from the chaise, dashed furiously onward with portions of the shafts attached to the harness, and never slackened his speed until he reached the marshes abutting upon the sea at East Mersea, a distance of eight miles from the scene of the accident. He was at length caught, and conducted, uninjured, back to Colchester. It is scarcely possible to conceive of any accident, so frightful in its aspect, and where so many lives are hazarded, without producing more disastrous results.—*Ipswich Express*.

DREADFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—**TWENTY-EIGHT LIVES LOST.**—Painful to relate, an explosion of fire-damp took place last Saturday, August 2nd, in a coal-pit belonging to Mr Powell, coal merchant, at the Dryfyn colliery, Aberdare, within four miles of Merthyr Tydfil. It took place when the men were at full work in one branch of the pit, where about thirty men were working. Two were brought out alive, but in a very dangerous state. Only thirteen of the dead bodies have yet (9 o'clock, Monday) been brought out. The foul air in the pit is so strong that the men can only stand their work about ten or fifteen minutes at a time. Hundreds of colliers went from Merthyr yesterday, to offer their services to assist them; and thousands of spectators were present to inquire for their relations and friends. Never was such an accident in this neighbourhood in the memory of man! The names of the sufferers I cannot give at present, nor how many of them married men exactly, but there were at least five of the latter, one of whom has left a wife and five children to mourn for him. The other twenty-three were all single. The funerals of the sufferers will commence to-day, and last for several days, as it is likely the whole of the bodies will not be got out for two or three days.—*From our Merthyr Correspondent*.

DISTURBING A CATHOLIC CONGREGATION.—**T. EASTWOOD**, Esq., of Brindle lodge, the party who so strangely interrupted a Catholic congregation during divine service, as detailed in our last number, was last week summoned before the magistrates at Preston, and bound over to appear at the general quarter sessions in October. Mr Eastwood, it appears, married the niece of the late Mr Heatley, of Brindle, and disputed the validity of the will by which that gentleman bequeathed great part of his property to Catholic clergymen, and especially to his own confessor.

GAMBLING IN SHARES.—During the present week it has actually been necessary for the magistrates of Leeds to employ the police to keep the footpaths clear, in the streets where the stock exchanges are situated, so great is the crowd of speculators standing there during the hours of business! The more respectable share-brokers are themselves alarmed, and are exerting themselves to repress the mania for gambling in shares.—*Leeds Mercury*.

DEATH FROM EATING MUSHROOMS.—On Saturday morning, Mr John Carr, bootmaker, Ipswich, died, a few hours after having partaken of the common and generally considered edible mushroom. Mr G. Buller, the medical attendant, stated before the jury, that all mushrooms are indigestible, at some periods of their growth are actually poisonous, and never ought to be eaten when the underneath part is black, being then only fit for making catsup.

LOUIS HENRY GOULE, the chief superintendent of the Durham county police, who was charged with having murdered his wife, whom he shot, suspecting her to have been guilty of infidelity to him, has this week been tried at the Durham assizes, and acquitted, on the ground that he was not of sound mind at the time he did the act. The verdict was received with applause from a very crowded court.

At the assizes held at Bodmin, on the 30th ult., the trial of a man named Benjamin Elliston, for the murder of Mrs Seamon, of Penzance, excited great local interest. The prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to be hung.

IRELAND.

REPEAL DEMONSTRATION IN GALWAY.—Mr O'Connell has had another monster meeting at Galway. He entered the town in procession, about half-past three o'clock on Sunday; his retinue being estimated at 100,000, and extending three miles in length. As they paraded the town, "showers" of bouquets fell into his carriage from windows filled with ladies. The march closed at the square, where an out-door meeting was held; Mr Francis Comyn, once a justice of the peace, presided; and 250,000, it is said, were present. Mr O'Connell's speech, *mutatis mutandis*, the reader has already perused times out of number. On Monday, he held a kind of levee for the reception of addresses; and there was a

great dinner in the theatre, at which four bishops were present. The speeches, including that of Dr M'Hale, archbishop of Tuam, were not striking, if we except some beauties in an oration by Mr Steele. He talked of the voice of the Lion of the Fold of Judah [Dr M'Hale] speaking to the Saxon ministers, and combined with the "repercussive roar of the multitudinous assembly of the people of Galway." "Your chairman," he remarked, "has said that we were ready to die with the Liberator; why, to be sure we were; and *blasted be the thrice-infected traitor*, who, professing in words to be devoted to Ireland, is not ready—aye, ready and steady, for weal or for woe, for good or for evil, or every extremity, however ghastly, to share the fate of O'Connell!"

WHAT THE IRISH ORANGEMEN INTEND TO DO.—Provoked by the rapid progress of tory concession in Ireland, and stimulated by the partial success of the orange assemblies on the 12th of July, the *Mail* announces on behalf of Fermanagh, that a great demonstration of physical force is to take place in Enniskillen on the 12th of August. It says, "It is expected that 40,000 members will be present. The adjoining counties of Cavan, Tyrone, and Donegal, should augment this assemblage to at least 100,000." The object of this meeting is avowed. Here it is, in the words and letters of the *Mail*: "TO INTIMIDATE, ACCORDING TO LAW." From the report of a preliminary meeting held at Enniskillen on Monday week, it appears that this step is taken with the sanction of the Earl of Enniskillen, the Hon. Somerset Maxwell (brother of Lord Farnham), and several other influential leaders of the Irish Protestant party; in addition to which, it seems, active measures are in progress for the reorganisation of the Orange institution.

THE NEW UNDER-SECRETARY.—Mr Pennefather, son of Baron Pennefather, and brother-in-law of the Earl of Glengall, has received the appointment of under-secretary of state, vacated by the retirement of Mr Lucas. Mr Pennefather is stated to be a moderate, very moderate, conservative in politics.

TWO REVENGE POLICEMEN of the Ballyconnell station, county Cavan, have been committed to the county gaol, charged with the murder of Mr Gallagher, and also with being ruffians.

THE BALLINHASSIG AFFRAY has left a bad feeling among the people of the locality. On Sunday, a Protestant schoolmaster who gave evidence for the police was hooted and assaulted by a mob; and Tait, a farmer who had expressed himself friendly to the constabulary, has had a cow-house and offices maliciously set on fire.

SCOTLAND.

MR VINCENT'S PROGRESS IN SCOTLAND.

We find the following paragraphs in the Scotch papers:—

MEARNS.—On Friday night week, Mr Vincent addressed a large meeting in the Secession church of this place, on the temperance reformation. The principles enunciated were received with great enthusiasm, and a vast amount of ignorance and prejudice were brushed from the minds of many present.

KILMARNOCK.—Mr Vincent has addressed two large and respectable meetings in this town. The first was held in the Relief church, and the second in the Rev. Mr Morrison's church. The people appeared delighted to welcome Mr Vincent among them again, and his discourses on the moral and intellectual state of society, and the importance of the temperance movement as a means of improving the condition of the people, gave the greatest satisfaction. The propagation of such principles is a source of consolation to all the earnest friends of popular improvement.

BEITH.—Two important meetings have been held here in the Relief church, convened by the Temperance League, and Mr Vincent has delivered two lectures to highly respectable audiences. The first meeting was preceded by a soirée, and was attended by many friends from the surrounding districts. Mr Vincent's addresses were received in the most rapturous manner, and must be productive of a great amount of good. The respectable and influential inhabitants were clearly shown how intimately the temperance movement stands associated with the moral, intellectual, and social improvement of the people, and they were most earnestly appealed to to lend it their powerful aid. The Temperance League deserves the thanks of all classes for the efforts they are making to promote this noble object. Mr Vincent left the town with the good wishes of all parties.

Mr Vincent is about to deliver a course of four lectures on the same subject in Edinburgh. On Tuesday last, at the usual meeting of the Edinburgh Town Council, a letter was read from the secretary of the "Scottish Temperance League," requesting the attendance of the Council at the course of lectures to be delivered by Mr Henry Vincent. Councillors Cruickshank, Russell, and Stott said a few words in support of the object of the lectures, and in praise of the lecturer.

GLASGOW EMANCIPATION SOCIETY.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Glasgow Emancipation Society was held on Friday night in the City Hall, which was numerously attended—the Rev. Dr Willis in the chair.

After a few introductory remarks by the chairman, and the reports of the state of the society during the past year, with a statement of its funds, being read,

Henry Greig, Esq., moved that the reports be adopted, printed, and circulated, and said, that, seeing there are no slaves in Britain, yet wherever slavery exists they were bound to condemn it, and

to exert themselves in behalf of setting the slave at liberty. He urged the friends of emancipation to persevere, and to let past efforts stimulate them to future exertions.

Mr MACTEAR seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

HENRY C. WRIGHT, after proposing a series of resolutions, said, that when advocating the cause of the slave, he did not stand upon sectarian ground, but planted himself upon the broad platform of humanity. When Wm Lloyd Garrison, a man who will be held in remembrance when Washington and Jackson, and other slaveholding presidents, have gone into oblivion, first raised the note of abolition, the position he took was, Institutions were made for man, and not man for institutions. After alluding to the agitation of the religious bodies in America, he blamed the apathy of the various bodies of Christians in this country, none of whom had given any express condemnation of slavery, excepting the reformed Presbyterians, and in name of the three millions of slaves of America, he returned them thanks for their fidelity in the matter.

Mr VINCENT, on rising to move the next resolution, was loudly cheered.

He said he rose, under mingled feelings of pain and pleasure, to move the adoption of an address to ministers and office-bearers of Christian churches in America, calling upon them to withdraw from all communion with slaveholders. He was pleased to be present at such an important meeting, to raise his voice in solemn protest against slavery in every form; and he was pained to have to move such an address to any portion of the people of America—a people who ought to be foremost in their appreciation of the sublime truths of the gospel, and of the great cause of human equality [cheers]. In the outset he would state, that he was actuated by no prejudice against America; still less was he prejudiced against the theory of her government. Had he lived at the time of her struggle for independence, his sympathies would have been with her; and he should ever rejoice in the vanquishment of his own country, whenever she raised a hand to impede the cause of freedom [loud cheers]. He gloried in that leading sentiment of her Declaration of Rights—"God made all men free and equal"—and he revered the republican theory, because he saw in it a far closer approximation to Christianity than he saw in the principle of heathen monarchy, or in that concentrated essence of absurdity—an hereditary aristocracy [loud cheers]. With these sympathies, he felt bound to address the American people in the language of strong, yet affectionate remonstrance, as he found entwined around their social institutions, and blended with their political constitution, a system of slavery that outrages all the precepts of the gospel, defies the laws of God, and tramples upon the rights of humanity. In that boasted land of liberty, he saw upwards of three millions of slaves, enduring a more hideous servitude than that endured by the vassals of the rotten monarchies of Europe, declared by law to be "beasts," "goods," "chattels!"—robbed of all the attributes and rights of our common humanity [cheers]. And so thoroughly had this system of slavery debauched the morals of the American people, that it exercised a greater influence in moulding their character than Christianity itself. Mr Vincent gave a vivid picture of the crimes perpetrated in America to uphold slavery, and showed how clearly the spirit of Christianity condemned such atrocity. How could a man-stealer, or a man-seller, or a slaveholder, be a Christian? And yet the great bulk of Christian professors in that country were men of that character. The memorial he had the honour to move, called upon all the evangelical Christians of America to cut themselves off from all communion with slaveholders [cheers]. Would any Christian church in this country admit to the table of the Lord a murderer, a thief, an adulterer, or a drunkard? [loud cries of "Hear, hear."] Yet the slaveholder is as bad as these. Mr Vincent, in a vigorous appeal to Christians, called upon them to vindicate the purity of their faith, by setting a mark upon these traffickers in the blood of their fellow-men. He then appealed to the American people to be faithful to the great trust that is placed in their hands. Every crime perpetrated in that country—every act of mob violence—every deed of perfidy, or breach of faith, were pointed to by the despots of Europe with ill-concealed exultation, and cited in proof of the failure and fate of republics—and he warned them that if they did not purge their country of the crime of blood, by breaking the shackles of the slave, that their country would, ere long, be excreted by the enlightened opinion of universal Christendom [great cheering].

Mr ANDERSON proposed a vote of thanks to Dr Willis for his conduct in the chair, after which the meeting separated.—*Glasgow Examiner.*

THE REPRESENTATION OF KIRKCUDBRIGHT.—Mr M. Maxwell of Terreglas, a whig and Catholic, has come forward as a candidate for the vacant seat, in the room of the late Mr Murray. On this subject the *Scottish Herald* remarks:—"Let the Free Churchmen and voluntary Dissenters in every village in the stewartry meet together—let them take as many of the tenant voters in their respective districts along with them as possible, and let them publish their views on the great ecclesiastical question to which we have referred. If this be done well and soon, Kirkcudbrightshire will find a much more acceptable representative than Mr M. C. Maxwell of Terreglas." The writ was issued on Wednesday.

At a public entertainment which the Earl of Galloway recently gave to his tenantry, he said he was determined in future to allow every tenant to course or net hares or rabbits at pleasure, either for his own family use or to be sold in the market like any other farm produce; and that an allowance would also be made of the flying game, should any of his tenants wish it on any particular occasion.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENTS.—At the meeting of the Edinburgh town council, on Tuesday last, Mr Russell, in a long and argumentative speech, submitted a resolution, "That it is the opinion of this council that capital punishments should be entirely abolished." Mr Cruickshank seconded the motion, and the discussion was adjourned until the next meeting.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

Mr Dickens has returned to England. He is about to start a magazine of his own: at least so runs the rumour in literary circles.

Mr Hudson has under his direct management 13 railways, about 500 miles in length, and having 15 millions of paid-up capital.

LUTHER.—At Stockholm has been discovered Luther's original letter to the Archbishop of Magdeburg, protesting against the sale of indulgences: it bears the date of Oct. 31st, 1547.

Mrs King, who takes the title of the Lion Queen, has been exhibiting her daring at Glasgow, by going into the dens of the lions and tigers at Wombwell's menagerie, and compelling them to obey her like so many tame animals.

SPIRITUAL DESTITUTION.—The district of Dukinfield, in the parish of Stockport, has a population of 25,000, with one church, and we believe only two clergymen. There is, it is true, an overstock of dissenting chapels; but what are they to the people?—*Church and State Gazette.*

In the New York Tribune "a white gentleman" advertises for "a coloured lady, of education and religious principles," as a wife; but intimates, by way of postscript, that "any white lady who detests slavery and is free from prejudice against colour will be attended to."

The Great Gun newspaper has paid its last shot in the Court of Requests, Guildhall, London, where the proprietor was summoned by a number of men hired to carry advertising placards through the streets, for which the Commissioner directed that he should pay the parties their claim of £9 5s. 6d.

DAINTIES FOR DINNER AND DESSERT.—On Friday last, the *Limena* arrived at Liverpool from Eleuthera, with 63 turtle and 1567 dozen of pine-apples, as part of her cargo. 63 turtle and 18,800 pine-apples! What a banquet they would furnish for a city feast!—*Manchester Guardian.*

EFFECTS OF STEAM BY LAND AND WATER.—The town of Sittingbourne, in Kent, a few years past, had two respectable inns, which together used sixty pairs of post horses; the largest, the Rose, is now shut up, and the other uses only three pairs of horses and two post boys; formerly thirty-five coaches went through the town, now only one.

A. M. Martinez, of Paris, states that he has discovered the means of carrying on the daguerreotype process on a gigantic scale. He can, he says, da-querreotype an entire panorama, embracing 150 degrees! His process consists in curving the metallic plate, and causing the lens which reflects the landscape to turn by clockwork.

COURT NEWS FROM THE ISLE OF WIGHT.—The royal children are on the beach, throwing stones into the water, by nine o'clock in the morning. Prince Albert drives out her Majesty and some of the royal children every day; and they look so plain and homely that they are scarcely noticed by the people. The Prince of Wales told the Queen he did not wish to go back to Buckingham palace again—he should like to stop at Osborne house, and throw stones. I learnt this at the dairy where the royal children go to drink milk.—*Cowes Correspondent of a London Newspaper.*

OLD HUNDREDTH.—The music in harmony of four parts of this venerable church tune was composed by Claude Goudimel, about the year 1544. The composer, who was chapel-master at Lyons, France, died in 1572, a victim to religious opinion. The harmony of this hymn has since been altered, as may be seen by comparing the same, as arranged in the present collection of church music, with the original. It is a popular musico-historical error, that Luther was the composer of this chorale.—*Musical World.*

COLD WATER CURE.—At Athens, Ohio, recently Councillor Wall, who had been retained for the defence of an incendiary, threatened to bully the court; and, with that view, the bravo presented himself as the barrister's table with a pair of horse-pistols. Mr Welch, the prosecuting counsel, rose to state his case, and coolly laid upon the table a loaded squirt, observing that his learned friend's weapons might possibly miss fire, but he might depend upon it the squirt would go off. There was a roar of laughter among the bystanders; which was augmented by an order of the court, directed to the sheriff, to take into custody both the pistols and the squirt. The bully sneakingly surrendered his weapons, and Mr Welch imitated his example with amusing mock reluctance.

MOCK SUN.—In the evening of the 14th ult., about seven o'clock, a mock sun appeared near Devizes, which is described as a slightly tinted prismatic pillar of light, proceeding from an immense luminous body at about 20 degrees from, and at rather a higher altitude than the resplendent orb of which it appeared to be a counterpart. The rustics exclaimed, "See, there's the comet," to which it bore some resemblance, and after beaming forth about a quarter of an hour, the meteor seemed to dissolve into a luminous cloud.

BURNING GLASSES EXTRAORDINARY.—On Sunday week Mr Morgan, draper, of Abergavenny, on going to his counting-house, was surprised at smoke arising from a bale of shawls, of first-rate quality, which had just arrived. The skylight of the room is composed of panes of glass, the centre of some of which present that protuberance technically denominated "bull's eyes;" these forming a focus, concentrated the rays of the sun, and the consequence was that a large and unseemly hole was burned through the pile of shawls, whereby considerable damage was sustained. Fortunately the goods were insured.

More of the Chinese ransom money—two million dollars—was brought to London on Monday, having been despatched from China by the Cambrian.

Religious Intelligence.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF IRELAND.

The annual meetings of this body were held in Dublin, in the third week in June, and were of a highly interesting and animating character. Mr W. Swan, Secretary to the Congregational Union of Scotland, attended as a delegate from that body. The proceedings were commenced with a public prayer-meeting on Monday evening. Portions of three days were occupied in the examination of the students under the care of Dr Urwick, Mr James Bewglass, A.M., and Professor Connellan; and the following testimonial was given by Mr W. Swan (who presided), and Mr N. Shepperd, highly satisfactory and honourable to the tutors and students, and calculated to awaken interest on behalf of the only institution designed to prepare young men for the arduous work of Congregational ministers and missionaries in Ireland:—

"We feel much gratification in testifying, that having attended the examination of the students in the Theological Institution in Dublin, conducted by the Rev. Dr Urwick and the Rev. James Bewglass, the young brethren examined gave proofs of intellectual ability, mental culture, and sound scholarship, highly satisfactory. The examination took place on the 17th, 18th, and 19th days of this month, occupying several hours each day. On the first day four discourses were delivered by four students, on subjects selected by themselves, all indicating sound doctrinal views, and a good proficiency in biblical learning. A series of questions in dogmatic and polemic theology, on the history of the church, the Romish controversy, and other points, was submitted to the students; and each of them, in our presence, wrote answers to their questions, which in style, precision, and truth, considering that they were not previously aware what questions were to be proposed, gave us a high idea of the accuracy, as well as the extent, of their attainments. On the second of the days above-mentioned, the students were examined by Mr Bewglass, in his own department. They read portions of the Greek New Testament, and of the writings of the apostolic fathers, *ad aperturam libri*. They read, also, portions of the Hebrew Bible, and underwent a searching examination upon the structure and idioms of both languages. In sacred hermeneutics, as in every other branch of study to which the examination extended, we have much pleasure in bearing testimony, that the progress made by our young brethren appeared to us equally creditable to their own ability and diligence, and to the zeal and high qualifications of their esteemed tutors. We should not be doing justice to our own convictions did we not add, that the course of study pursued in the Dublin Theological Academy possessed a special adaptation to Ireland, as the field of the future labours of those trained in it; and that a most judicious attention is paid to those branches of theological and general learning which may fit them for service in a country such as Ireland is.

"Another branch of the course—the instruction the students receive in the Irish language—has an important bearing on this; and the examination of three of the students, in our presence, by Professor Connellan, gave us, so far as we were able to form an opinion, the impression, which the Professor's testimony fully confirms, that all of them promise, on the conclusion of their course, to be excellent Irish scholars, and qualified, in a high degree, for evangelical labour among the Irish as well as the English-speaking population.

(Signed),
W. SWAN,
NOBLE SHEPPERD."

"Dublin,
"23rd June, 1845.

The evening of Wednesday, 21st June, was devoted to the solemn public recognition of Messrs H. Martin and S. M. Coombs, who had completed their term of study, and were to enter fully on home missionary work, in which they had already been to some extent employed. This service was felt by many who attended it to be of an unusually impressive character.

On the evening of the 22nd, the usual public meeting was held in York Street chapel, and on the following evening at a social meeting in the school house, lately erected in connexion with that place of worship, about 200 persons sat down to tea, and were addressed by several ministers and other friends.

The report read at the public meeting related several gratifying instances of usefulness in connexion with the missionary agency of the Union. Including the two young brethren already named, the Union has thirteen agents employed in various parts of the country, as pastors with small districts for itinerating, as missionaries at large in more extensive districts, or as exhorters and scripture readers. The financial part of the report exhibited a deficiency of no less than £610—caused chiefly by the non-payment of the large sum due to the Union from the Irish Evangelical Society, and partly by the absence of the expected contributions from Scotland, the Congregational churches in that country having been engaged in an extraordinary effort to free themselves from chapel debts. The contributions from England had exceeded those of the preceding year by about £156, and a much greater increase was confidently expected to take place in the ensuing year.

The resolutions passed at the public meeting will be found in an advertisement. Of the addresses too much space would be occupied by more than a general notice. The allusion in the first resolution to "the moral and spiritual destitution of Ireland," called forth from Mr J. D. Smith, of Newry, a fervent and spirit-stirring address, such as many assemblies in England have heard from him. The two millions of Irish-speaking people, half a million of whom speak no other language than Irish, while only twelve ministers of all evangelical denominations preach in that tongue, supplied him with a topic of deep and thrilling interest. Mr Wm Swan gave some interesting statements regarding the present circumstances of the Scottish Congregational churches, spoke of their Union and that of Ireland as identical in their principles, objects, and the nature of their operations, expressed the satisfaction

he had felt in attending the examination of the students, commended the agents as appearing to be all "men of heart and energy," prepared to meet and surmount difficulties, and encouraged the Union to continue to cultivate the spirit of hope and confidence which had been exhibited, remarking that "all our discouragements come from ourselves, but all our encouragements from God, whose work we are doing." The subject of the Maynooth endowment occupied a prominent place in the speeches. Mr D'Arcy Irvine, who moved the first resolution, vindicated the Crosby-hall Conference from attacks which had been made on it, showing that it represented the great majority of the Dissenters, and stated the satisfaction with which the resolutions of the committee of the Irish Union were received there. A resolution, approving of the proceedings of the committee, and directing public attention to the grounds on which they had placed their opposition to the bill, formed the text for a masterly address from Mr N. SHEPPERD, of Sligo, in which he stated several beneficial results which he thought had already followed from this strange "movement," on the part of our rulers. It had elicited real principle and character in an extraordinary degree, with regard to politicians, to Churchmen, to Dissenters, and to Roman Catholics. It had given ground on which all lovers of essential truth could unite, and had done something to promote their union. It had turned the mind of British Christians towards Ireland. It had "put a nail in the coffin of the compulsory principle." It had beautifully illustrated the truth that—

"God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform."

In this instance, more progress had been made in what we deem important, in three months, than previously in ten years. Mr SHEPPERD enforced upon Congregationalists, who had so long held principles which others, superior to them in many respects, were now only beginning to spell out, the obligations thence arising to gratitude, humility, and devotedness—to a moral elevation corresponding with the elevation of the principles they had derived from the Word of God. Mr S. KING (of Cork) followed on the same subject, stating, that if he could look at the question of the endowment of Maynooth merely politically, he should regard it, as politicians did, as only an act of justice—that the only ground on which he could consistently oppose it was that of the evil of all state endowments of religion—and that he had found, in communicating with intelligent Roman Catholics in the south, that they perceived that, in accepting this state provision, they had compromised the high independent standing they had previously occupied. Want of space forbids us even a brief notice of the speeches of Messrs Bewglass, Hodgens, and others.

On the following evening, Mr King's subject was "the Kingly Office of Christ," which he treated in reference to the experience and conduct of individual Christians—to the regulations and proceedings of the church—and to providential events affecting the church. In this address, and in others during the evening, there was a distinct and forcible exhibition of the great principles for which we are now called earnestly to strive. The other speakers were Dr Urwick, Messrs W. Swan, A. Bell (Ballycraigey, near Belfast), R. Murphy (Waterford), J. D. Smith, Mr Stanfield, an episcopal friend from Belfast, secretary to the Anti-slavery Society there, and Mr J. J. King, a deacon of the church in Plunkett street, Dublin. Some of the ministers who would have spoken had been obliged to leave town for their distant spheres of labour, but those who remained for the last meeting declared that they had found the engagements of the anniversary far superior in hallowed interest and pleasure to those of any former similar occasions.

SALEM CHAPEL, BRIDPORT.—This place of worship, under the ministry of Mr T. Wallace, was opened for divine service on Friday, August 1st, 1845, when three discourses were delivered. In the morning, Mr John Radford, the superintendent Wesleyan minister of the Bridport circuit, preached an appropriate and affectionate sermon, on the great promise, that the Saviour's presence will be enjoyed by his assembled people. In the afternoon, Mr Alfred Bishop, of Beaminster, delivered an instructive and able discourse, on Christ, the great subject of an evangelical ministry, and the joy which the exhibition of that subject occasions. The evening service was held in the new and spacious Wesleyan chapel, South street, kindly lent on the occasion, by the resident ministers, when Mr T. Wallace preached to a crowded audience on the intense solicitude of the members of the church of Christ, that the Lord would rend the heavens, come down, and permanently abide with his children, removing all impediments to the progress of his gospel out of the way. The opening services were continued on Sunday, August 3rd, and appropriate sermons were delivered; a Sabbath school of 130 children was formed; and, in the evening, numbers were unable to gain admission. An elegant pulpit Bible has been presented to Mr Wallace by the children of the school and congregation, as an expression of their regard.

BIRTHS.

July 28, the wife of Mr SAMUEL MARTIN, minister of Westminster chapel, of a daughter.

July 29, the wife of Mr JHN MIDDLETON HARE, of a son.

August 2, at Stafford house, the Duchess of SUTHERLAND, of a son.

August 2, the wife of Mr C. J. HYATT, minister, Hardwick place, Commercial road, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

July 24th, by Dr Raffles, ALFRED HIGGINS, Esq., to MARY CAROLINE, second daughter of T. MORECROFT, Esq., the manor house, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.

July 25, at Grosvenor Street chapel, Manchester, by Mr R. Fletcher, Mr B. LONGLEY, minister, to MARY, the eldest daughter of the late Ben BEAUMONT, Esq., of Austerlands.

July 29, at St Luke's church, Middlesex, JOHN MUGGERIDGE, Esq., of Carshalton, to MARY, youngest daughter of J. E. SAUNDERS, Esq., of Finsbury square.

July 31, at Tottenham Old church, JOHN THOMPSON FLETCHER, Esq., of Union Dock, Limehouse, to MARY HANNAM, eldest daughter of Josiah MESSEY, Esq., of Bruce grove, Tottenham.

July 29, by Mr Richard Keynes, at the Independent chapel, Blandford, BENJAMIN CHANDLER, jun., Esq., of Sherborne, Dorset, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of Richard WORSLEY, Esq., of Blandford.

July 29, at Tonbridge chapel, London, by Mr John Robinson, Mr GEORGE J. ADENEY, minister, of Ealing, Middlesex, to PHOEBE, daughter of the late William HEDDY, Esq., of the same place.

July 29, at the Baptist chapel, Hall green, Haworth, York, Mr RICHARD GREENWOOD, jun., warehouseman, to Miss ELIZABETH SMITH, all of the above place.

July 30, at Kingsland chapel, by the pastor, Mr T. Aveling, Mr THOMAS CHANDLER, of King's Langley, to Miss ELIZABETH, of Kingsland.

July 31, at the Friends' Meeting house, Ackworth, Yorkshire, CHARLES BARNARD, superintendent of the Friends' school, Wigton, Cumberland, to MARY ANN, eldest daughter of Stephen RAMPLEN, of Ipswich.

August 2, by license, at the Congregational chapel, Cotton and Bedfordshire, by Mr John Frost, Mr ENOS METCALF, Lincoln, minister, to Miss GARRATT, of Wissamstead, Beds.

DEATHS.

July 26, Mr PETER WILLIAMS, who was more than half a century a consistent member of the Welsh Independent church, at Swansea, forty-two years a deacon, and more than forty years a superintendent of the Sunday-school.

July 26, at the house of her brother-in-law, Dr Joseph Hutton, 5, Hamilton place, King's Cross, London, aged 53, SARAH, daughter of Mr John HOLT, late of Leeds.

July 27, at Coombe Down, aged 6 years, much lamented, MARY ELIZABETH, only daughter of Mr T. J. WREN, Baptist minister. She was a long and great sufferer, but was never known to murmur or repine.

July 28, suddenly, to the inexpressible grief of her dear parent, and other relations and friends, JULIA MARIA, the youngest daughter of Mr W. K. SIMPSON, wine merchant, Bury St Edmunds. "The grass withereth, and the flower thereof fadeth away, but the word of the Lord endureth for ever."

July 29, at the house of her son-in-law, Mr Samuel Kemp, 48, Clarendon terrace, Islington, Mrs ELIZABETH KIMBER HUBBUCK, relict of the late Mr William Hubbuck, aged 77.

July 30, at her seat, Studley park, near Ripon, Yorkshire, Mrs ELIZABETH SOPHIA LAWRENCE, who held two seats at the disposal of the government. The bulk of the immense wealth of the respected deceased will, it is understood, go to her nephews, Earl de Grey and the Earl of Ripon, and to Sir L. Shadwell, Vice-chancellor of England, who is also a relation.

July 31, at Cardington, Beds, accidentally killed by the fall of a tree, CHARLES, aged 7, the youngest son of Samuel Charles WHITBREAD, Esq.

August 2, suddenly, the beloved wife of Mr C. HYATT, sen., of Ebenezer chapel, Shadwell, at an advanced age.

August 2, suddenly, MARY, the beloved wife of Mr T. JONES, Independent minister, of Saron, Carmarthenshire, in her 58th year, much and deeply regretted.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, August 1.

The Wesleyan Methodists' Association chapel, Camelford, Cornwall.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

HILDITCH, WILLIAM, Denbigh, grocer.

BANKRUPTS.

ALDCROFT, JOHN, Longsight, Lancashire, licensed victualer, August 15, Sept. 5: solicitors, Mr Samuel Appleby, Harpur street, Red Lion square, London, and Mr Alexander Oliver, Manchester.

BEET, JOHN, Bradford, Yorkshire, dyer, August 12, Sept. 2: solicitors, Messrs Yonge and Hancock, Tokenhouse yard, London; Mr Freeman, Halifax; and Mr Sanderson, Leeds.

BEST, WILLIAM, and SNOWDON, JOHN, Southampton, printers, August 14, Sept. 12: solicitors, Messrs Walker and Co., Southampton street, Bloomsbury, and Messrs Deacon and Long, Southampton.

BROADBENT, JOSEPH, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, woollen manufacturer, August 11, Sept. 1: solicitors, Messrs Norris and Co.; Mr Heaton, Rochdale; and Mr Courtenay, Leeds.

CLARK, WILLIAM, Royston, Hertfordshire, baker, August 8, Sept. 12: solicitor, Mr George Hensman, Basing lane.

CURTIS, JOHN HARRISON, Soho square, bookseller, August 8, Sept. 12: solicitors, Messrs Lawrence and Plews, Bucklersbury.

JAMSON, WILLIAM, Spittlegate, Lincolnshire, victualer, August 14, Sept. 18: solicitors, Mr Willan, Bedford row, London; Mr J. P. King, Grantham; and Mr Solomon Bray, Birmingham.

MADDOCKS, THOMAS, late of Longton, victualer, August 14, Sept. 11: solicitors, Mr Williams, Hanley, and Mr John Smith, Birmingham.

PEAKE, JAMES, Tolleshunt Knights, Essex, miller, August 11, Sept. 12: solicitor, Mr Loughborough, Austin Friars.

PEARSON, JOHN, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, fellmonger, August 15, Sept. 23: solicitors, Mr Hoyle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Messrs Crosby and Compton, Church court, Old Jewry, London.

POWELL, THOMAS, Allerton Bywater, Yorkshire, brickmaker, August 11, Sept. 1: solicitors, Messrs Williamson and Hill, Gray's inn, London, and Mr Cariss, Leeds.

SOUTH, SIMON, Spittlegate, Lincolnshire, maltster, August 14, Sept. 18: solicitors, Messrs White and Co., Grantham, and Mr Bry, Birmingham.

TUNKS, JAMES, late of George place, Newland terrace; but now of Scardell terrace, Kensington, market gardener, August 14, Sept. 12: solicitor, Mr Sadgrove, Mark lane.

WALKER, HENRY DECIMUS, Eaton Socon, Bedfordshire, innkeeper, August 15, Sept. 12: solicitors, Messrs Hale and Co., Ely place, Holborn, and Mr William Day, St Neots.

WALTER, JOHN HENRY, late of Camberwell, Surrey, ironmonger, August 11, Sept. 12; solicitors, Messrs Elmslie and Prestou, Moorgate street, and Messrs Matthews and Co., Gravesend.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

DUNCAN ROBERT, Edinburgh, baker, August 7, 27.

DIVIDENDS.

J. J. Ayton, South Shields, draper; first div. of 1s. 10d., any Saturday—T. B. Jepson, Manchester, grocer; first div. of 10d., August 12, or any Tuesday after Oct. 1.—W. Bower, Levenshulme, Lancashire, cotton spinner; third div. of 8d., and first, second, and third divs. of 2s. 10d., on new proofs, August 12, or any Tuesday after Oct. 1.—E. Burdekin, Manchester, banker; second div. of 6d. and 1s. 5d. of a penny; and first and second divs. of 6d. and 9d.—20th of a penny on new proofs, August 12, or any Tuesday after Oct. 1.—D. Hilton, Oldham, Lancashire, cotton spinner; second div. of 4d.; and first and second divs. of 2s. 8d. on new proofs, August 12, or any Tuesday after Oct. 1.—H. P. Cook, Coggeshall, Essex, victualer; first div. of 4s. 8d., August 2, and two subsequent Saturdays—J. White, Rochford, Essex, bootmaker; first div. of 1s. 9d., August 2, and two subsequent Saturdays.

Tuesday, August 5.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of 6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 85:—

Baptist chapel, Southmolton, Devonshire.

Baptist meeting-house, Neatishead, Norfolk.

BANKRUPTS.

BARNES, MARK, Woodbridge, Suffolk, chemist, August 12, September 18; solicitors, Messrs Gregory and Co., 1, Bedford row.

BRYAN, JAMES, Bristol, chemist, August 21, September 16; solicitor, Mr Anthony Wellington, 11, King's road, Gray's-inn, London.

COATES, GEORGE, 43, Hart street, Bloomsbury, apothecary, August 14, September 19; solicitor, Mr John Seward, North crescent, Bedford square.

KEMP, JAMES COLQUHOUN, Liverpool, merchant, August 20, September 19; solicitors, Messrs Brooksbank and Farn, Gray's inn-square; Mr John Brown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Mr Snowball, Liverpool.

LUCKIN, GEORGE, 327, High Holborn, boot maker, August 19, September 18; solicitor, Mr Wilkin, Furnival's inn.

LUXTON, JOHN PERKIN, Munster street, Regent's park, and Spring street, Paddington, linen draper, August 12, September 16; solicitor, Mr Herbert Lloyd, Milk street, Cheapside.

SMITH, JOHN AUGUSTUS GUSTAVUS, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire, auctioneer, August 15, September 9; solicitors, Messrs Makinson and Sanders, Tempie, London; and Messrs Atkinson and Saunders, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

BISSET, ROBERT, Ferguslie, Paisley, manufacturer, August 11, September 11.

DIVIDENDS.

E. C., J., and J. Radford, Manchester, ironfounders, third div. of 2s. 0jd., and first, second, and third div. of 6s. 0jd., any Tuesday after Oct. 1—W. Wood, T. Smith, R. Smith, and J. Stein, Workington, bankers, fourth div. of 2d., Aug. 9 and following Saturday, and three last Saturdays in October—S. May, 51, Myddleton street, Clerkenwell, watch manufacturer, first div. of 7s., Aug. 9 and following Saturday, and three last Saturdays in October—W. Cawthorn, jun., Salisbury street, Strand, wine merchant, first div. of 3s. 4d., Aug. 9 and following Saturday, and three last Saturdays in October—G. Gardner, Gravesend, tavern keeper, first div. of 1s., Aug. 9 and following Saturday, and three last Saturdays in October—W. Hamblen, 60, Queen's road, Bayswater, corn agent, first div. of 2s. 6d., any Wednesday—E. Blunden, Alton, Hampshire, plumber, sec. div. of 9d., any Wednesday—J. K. Myers, Sunderland, victualler, first and final div. of 2s. 1jd., Saturday, August 2—A. Jarrett, Castle street, Southwark, hat manufacturer, fourth div. of 2d., any Wednesday—C. Kettell, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, brewer, final div. of 9d., August 6 and 13—T. Gorton, jun., Grosvenor row, Pimlico, bookseller, final div. of 5s. 9d., August 6 and 13—G. Payne, King street, Covent Garden, tailor, first div. of 2s. 6d., August 6 and 13—J. W. Mardall, New Shoreham, Sussex, insurance broker, first div. of 1s. 2jd., August 6 and 13—W. Dale, 109, London wall, bootmaker, first div. of 2s. 8d., August 6 and 13—J. Metcalf, Liverpool, grocer, final div. of 5d., any Thursday—C. S. Haward, Colchester, Essex, grocer, first div. of 2s. 2jd., any Wednesday.

BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
Ditto for Account	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
3 per cents Reduced	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
New 3½ per cent.	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½
Long Annuities	—	—	11½	11½	11½	11½
Bank Stock	211½	211	—	—	—	211
India Stock	—	—	27½	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	53pm	53pm	53pm	51pm	52pm	53pm
India Bonds	—	—	67	69	67pm	70pm

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	116	Mexican	36½
Belgian	100	Peruvian	37
Brazilian	91	Portuguese 5 per cents	81½
Buenos Ayres	49	Ditto converted	65½
Columbian	17½	Russian	118
Danish	89½	Spanish Active	263
Dutch 2½ per cents	62½	Ditto Passive	6½
Ditto 4 per cents	99½	Ditto Deferred	20½

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Gloucester	135	London & Croydon Trunk	26
Blackwall	12½	London and Greenwich	—
Bristol and Exeter	90	Ditto New	—
Eastern Counties	21½	Manchester and Leeds	195
Edinburgh and Glasgow	82	Midland Counties	178½
Grand Junction	—	Ditto New Shares	27½
Great North of England	22½	Manchester and Birming.	63
Great Western	22½	Midland and Derby	130
Ditto Half	120	Ditto New	—
Ditto Fifths	48½	South Eastern and Dover	46
London and Birmingham	244	South Western	80
London & Birm. & shares	24	Ditto New	—
London and Brighton	80	Yorks and North Midland	—

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 4.

Since Friday very heavy rain has fallen, and although it is rather finer to-day, the appearance is by no means settled.

The supply of English wheat this morning was larger than for some weeks past; the trade opened briskly, and fine samples brought an advance of 1s. per quarter on the currency of this day week; but the quantity being so large, the market was not supported for secondary sorts. The sales made in free foreign were limited, but on as good terms. Holders of bonded demand an advance of 2s. to 3s. per quarter, but the business transacted was not so extensive as last week.

Barley, beans, and peas each fully as dear.

The supply of Irish oats being close upon 28,000 quarters, added to several foreign cargoes now here, caused the trade to be heavy, and only for the fluest qualities could the prices of this day se'nnight be realised.

Wheat, Red..... 56 to 60

Fine..... 58 to 62

White..... 62 to 66

Fine..... 62 to 67

Flour, per sack..... 42 to 51

Barley..... 25 to 28

Malting..... 30 to 33

DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.

Beans, Pigeon..... 38 to 43

Harrow..... 33 to 35

Oats, Feed..... 21 to 23

Fine..... 23 to 24

Poland..... 22 to 24

Potato..... 22 to 24

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR AUG. 1.

AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.

Wheat..... 51s. 7d.

Barley..... 29 2

Oats..... 22 5

Rye..... 31 7

Beans..... 30 5

Peas..... 38 10

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Aug. 4.

The general opinion of the hop crop this year has been that a heavy duty will be grown, and which has been backed at from £180,000 to £190,000. The judgment of experienced planters is, that should there be a continuance of the present weather, the duty will be much less than now estimated. Mouldin some parts has made its appearance, but not to a great extent. The hops are about a fortnight more backward than usual, and the season, it is expected, will be late.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Aug. 4.

Although the attendance of both town and country buyers was rather numerous, the beef trade was in a sluggish state, at a decline in the quotations obtained on Monday last of 2d. per 8lbs., the highest figure for the best Scots not exceeding 4s. 4d. per 8lbs., and at which a clearance was with difficulty effected. For the time of year the number of sheep was very limited, and their condition was by no means good, notwithstanding the plentiful supply of fodder on the whole of our large stock farms. The prime old Downs were in steady request at full rates of currency, but all other kinds were a slow inquiry at barely stationary prices. There were very few store animals on offer, and for which high rates were again demanded. The supply of lambs was small; owing to which the lamb trade was active at full quotations. The foreign calves found ready buyers at from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per 8lbs. Generally speaking, the veal trade was steady at last week's figures. In pigs—the supply of which was small—only a limited business was doing, at late rates.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef..... 3s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.	Veal..... 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.
Mutton..... 3 6 .. 5 0	Pork..... 3 0 .. 4 3
Lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.	

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	752	10,550	370
Monday	3,016	21,170	164

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Aug. 4.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.	
Inferior Beef 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d.	Inf. Mutton 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.
Middling do 3 0 .. 3 4	Mid. ditto 3 6 .. 4 4
Prime large 3 6 .. 3 8	Prime ditto 4 6 .. 4 8
Prime small 3 10 .. 4 0	Veal 3 8 .. 4 10
Large Pork 2 8 .. 3 6	Small Pork 3 8 .. 4 2
Lamb, 4s. 10d. to 6s. 0d.	

COAL EXCHANGE, Aug. 2.

Stewart's, 18s. 6d.; Hetton's, 18s. 6d.; Braddell's Hettons, 18s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 3.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, AUG. 5.

TEA.—The deliveries continue to be large, and amount this week to nearly 520,000 lbs. Common sound Congous are selling at 9d. to 9½d. per lb.; common Twankay at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2d. per lb.

COFFEE.—300 bags plantation Ceylon sold at a further decline of 1s. to 2s. per cwt.; fine ordinary coloury fetched 62s. to 65s.; fine ordinary, 60s. to 61s. per cwt. A parcel of damaged native sold at lower rates.

SUGAR.—The trade bought 600 hds. hives and tierces, at an advance of 6d. per cwt, including a public sale of 125 hds. Barbados. Good to fine yellow fetched 51s. to 53s.; low to middling, 48s. to 51s. 6d. There was not much doing in the refined market. Standard lumps are selling at 68s. 6d. to 69s.; and brown grocery at 67s. to 67s. 6d. per cwt. 2,000 bags Bengal, in auction, fetched full rates; middling to good white fetched 54s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.; middling yellow, 51s. to 51s. 6d.; fine grainy sound Dobah kind 59s. 6d. to 61s. per cwt.

Advertisements.

TEACHER WANTED.

WANTED, as TEACHER in a BOARDING SCHOOL kept by a Member of the Society of Friends, an active young man, competent to teach the superior branches of a good English education. Unexceptionable references and testimonials must be given. Salary, £30. Apply to Lovell Squire, Falmouth.

LEADER OF CONGREGATIONAL SINGING WANTED.

A PERSON is wanted to CONDUCT the SINGING in the congregation worshipping in Holloway Chapel. He will have to attend three services on the Sabbath, and one in the week. A member of a Christian church will be preferred. No one need apply who has not a good voice, and does not understand the science of music. Salary £20 per annum. Applications to be made, by letter, to the Rev. A. J. Morris, 7, Victoria road, Holloway, before Saturday, Aug. 16th.

MARGATE.—CHURCH FIELD ACADEMY.

Mr C. S. LEWIS begs respectfully to inform his Friends, and the Public generally, that he has a few Vacancies in his Establishment. Terms, from Twenty-five to Thirty Guineas per annum. The locality is highly conducive to health—the moral and intellectual improvement of the Pupils is anxiously cultivated, and the greatest attention paid to their domestic comfort. The sons of Dissenters have the privilege of attending the ministry of the Rev. H. J. Gamble. Reference to the most satisfactory may be obtained personally or by letter.

EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC MEETING was held at FINSBURY CHAPEL, on MONDAY LAST, JULY 28th, to receive Dr MERLE D'AUBIGNE, and to form an Association for aiding the Evangelical Societies of the Continent—

Sir CULLING EARDLEY SMITH, Bart., in the chair.

After addresses by Dr Merle D'Aubigne and the Rev. Mark Wilks, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by the Rev. Dr REED, and seconded by the Rev. J. A. JAMES, of Birmingham:—

1. That this meeting, having heard with deep interest the statements of their honoured friends, the Rev. Dr Merle D'Aubigne and the Rev. Mark Wilks, respecting the work of God in France and Geneva, consider it the duty of British Christians to aid the Evangelical Societies of the continent, and resolve that an Association be immediately formed for this purpose—of which the following shall be the rules:—

1. That the name of this Society be the Evangelical Continental Society.

2. That the object of the Society be to assist and encourage Evangelical Societies on the Continent in their endeavours to propagate the gospel, and by other means to promote the same important end.

3. That the Society be under the direction of three Secretaries, and a Committee, who shall be appointed by the Annual Meeting of Members.

4. That all Subscribers of half-a-guinea and upwards per annum, shall be considered as members, and donors of five guineas members for life. That the contributions shall be apportioned according to the discretion of the Committee, except in cases where subscribers give special directions.

5. That, as far as possible, Associations be formed in different parts of the country, to promote the objects of this Society.

6. That the Committee shall meet as often as is found necessary, and that their duty shall be to correspond with the Societies abroad, and to gain and circulate information, and in general to attend to the interests of this Association.

7. That an Annual Public Meeting be held in London, at such time as the Committee find expedient to receive their report.

Moved by the Rev. JAMES HAMILTON, seconded by the Rev. Dr VAUGHAN, and supported by the Rev. J. H. HINTON:—

II. That the following gentleman be requested to act as the Officers of this Society:—

TREASURER, WILLIAM ALERS HANKEY, Esq.

HONORARY SECRETARIES.

Rev. THOMAS JAMES.

Rev. J. C. HARRISON.

M. De CALIGNY.

COMMITTEE.

Sir CULLING EARDLEY SMITH, Bart.

Rev. Robert Ainslie	Rev. A. Tidman
— Dr Archer	Dr J. R. Bennett
— J. Blackburn	Dr Camps
— J. Burnet	W. Edwards, Esq.
— Dr Campbell	Joseph East, Esq.
— James Hamilton	J. Mann, Esq.
— Dr Leifchild	J. Radly, Esq.
— Thomas Lewis	Henry Rutt, Esq.
— Dr Morison	Ebenezer Smith, Esq.
— Dr Reed	James Spicer, Esq.
— Dr J. P. Smith	Edward Swaine, Esq.
— George Smith	Joshua Wilson, Esq.

With power to fill up vacancies or add to their number.

Moved by the Rev. JAMES SHERMAN, seconded by the Rev. J. C. HARRISON:—

III. That the thanks of this meeting be presented to Sir Culling Eardley Smith, for his kindness in consenting to preside on this occasion, and for the manner in which he has conducted the business of the evening.

The collection amounted to £59 8s. 6d.

The following donations and subscriptions were also presented:—

Sir Culling Eardley	— Wells, Esq.	5 5 0
Smith, Bart. £10 0 0	Henry Thompson, Esq.	5 5 0
C. Hindley, Esq.	Rev. F. Watts, Birmingham, ann.	3 3 0
M. P. 10 0 0	T. Grove, Esq.	1 1 0
W. A. Hankey, Esq. 10 0 0	E. Swaine, Esq., ann.	1 1 0
J. Wilson, Esq. 10 0 0	Mr Medway, ditto	1 0 0
Ebenezer Smith, Esq. 10 0 0	Hull Terrell, Esq., ditto	1 0 0
Rev. J. A. James, Birmingham, 5 0 0	Mr Moses Roberts, ditto	1 0 0
S. Morley, Esq. 5 0 0	Mr Moses Roberts, ditto	1 1 0

Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received, and information supplied by the Secretaries, Rev. T. James and Rev. J. C. Harrison, 7, Blomfield street, Finsbury.

REV. WILLIAM KNIBB.

Just published, by MESSRS DYER and CO., 21, Paternoster row, A PORTRAIT of the Rev. W. KNIBB, taken from Life, by JAMES PALMER. To those anxious to preserve a memorial of this eminent man and Christian missionary, this Portrait is strongly recommended, from its striking resemblance and lowness of price.

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Rev. H. F. BURDELL, D.D., Hackney.
Rev. JOHN BURNET, Camberwell.
Rev. JOHN CAMPBELL, D.D., Tabernacle.
Rev. GEORGE CLAYTON, York Street Chapel, Walworth.
Rev. JOHN CLAYTON.
Rev. F. A. COX, D.D., Hackney.
Rev. J. P. DOBSON, Orange street.
Rev. ANDREW GRAY, Perth.
Rev. JAMES HAMILTON, M.A., Regent's square.
Rev. R. W. HAMILTON, D.D. and LL.D., Leeds.
Rev. E. JONES, Plymouth.
Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, York Street Chapel, Westminster.
Rev. GEORGE PRITCHARD, H.M. Consul at Tahiti.
Rev. J. W. RICHARDSON, Tabernacle.
Rev. JAMES SHERMAN, Surrey Chapel.
Rev. J. PYE SMITH, D.D., F.R.S., Hemerton.
Rev. EDWARD STEANE, D.D., Denmark Place Chapel, Camberwell, &c., &c.

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BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION respectfully invite the attention of Protestant Dissenting Ministers in general, and especially of such as are members of that Society, to the following Resolution, adopted by the Council at its First Annual Meeting, the 6th of May, 1845:—

“That the Council cordially unite with the general body of Dissenting Deputies of the Three Denominations, in and within twelve miles of London, in the request which they have made public, that Protestant Dissenting Ministers will, on or about the next anniversary of Bartholomew's day (August 24), preach sermons in explanation and defence of the principles of Non-conformity and Dissent; and, they venture to hope that those congregations which are favourable to the objects of the British Anti-state-church Association will on that occasion make a public collection in aid of the funds thereof.”

F. A. COX,
E. MIAU,
J. M. HARE, { Secretaries.

To Ministers intending to hold Commemorative Services on the coming Bartholomew Day.

THE TRACT No. 7, of the CONGREGATIONAL TRACT SOCIETY'S SERIES, being an Address on the BARTHOLOMEW-DAY OF 1662, Price 2s. 6d. per 100, is respectfully recommended for general distribution.

And to Superintendents of Sunday-schools, THE CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY-SCHOOL HYMN-BOOK, just published by the Congregational Tract Society, containing 130 popular Children's Hymns; in stiff covers, price 2d. each, or 14s. per 100.

Specimens may be had of the Secretary, the Rev. Jerome Clapp, Appledore, Devon.

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N.B. The author begs to state, that she has now placed the few remaining copies of the “Seaweed Collector” in the hands of Messrs Aylott and Jones.

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